

U.S. soldiers arrive in Kuwait

KUWAIT (AP) — Some 500 U.S. soldiers have arrived in Kuwait to prepare for military manoeuvres in the emirate. The U.S. moves to deploy forces and equipment to counter any new Iraqi threat following high-level defections from the Baghdad regime. The planes landed at a sector of Kuwait international airport sealed off for military use. Reporters were not allowed to talk to the soldiers. The Iraq government meanwhile denied claims by Iraq planned defections that it had new plans to invade Iraq's neighbours. Information Minister Hamed Youssef Hammadi said Tuesday that the allegations by defector Hussein Kamel were "part of the distortion campaign against" Iraq. Hassan "in his position, has to fabricate all kinds of lies to defend himself," Mr. Hassan Hammadi said in an interview with the Associated Press. Gen. Hassan told the AP on Sunday that Iraq was planning to attack Saudi Arabia and Kuwait this month, saying his Aug. 8 defection foiled the plan.



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Sudan to release all political prisoners

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan announced Wednesday that it will release all political prisoners "without exception" in three days. The planned prisoner release was reported by the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA). It stressed that the release will be implemented "without exception." Justice Minister Abdul Aziz Shido told SUNA that the government was satisfied with the country's security arrangements, suggesting the government was confident political opponents could cause it no harm. On Tuesday President Lieutenant General Omar Hassan Al Bashir said that parliamentary and presidential elections would take place next year, but did not announce whether he would stand as a candidate. Leader of the Islamic National Front Hassan Al Turabi was the only party leader released, shortly after General Bashir's coup, and he is now believed to be the real power behind the present government. State television quoted Gen. Bashir as saying that elections for the main parliament in Khartoum are due to take place next year, replacing the present transitional one appointed by the government.

King voices deep disappointment over Iraqi policies

HM, in address to nation, says vision corrected by recent developments
Jordan will not close borders for Iraqi people; nor will it bow to pressure
Jordan will seek alternative sources for its oil need as a precautionary measure
International sanctions will not be lifted until Baghdad fulfills all U.N. demands
Hussein Kamel left because he wanted to rescue his country and people
Monarch says he has no ambitions in Iraq except to see end to Iraqis' suffering

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday expressed deep disappointment with the Iraqi leadership, saying it had repeatedly deceived him, and said Jordanians should be prepared for any eventuality in relations with Iraq. However, the King, in a speech broadcast on Jordan Television, said Jordan would not close its borders for the people of Iraq. Nor would Jordan succumb to any pressure aimed at influencing its policies, said the King in the first speech to the nation after the dramatic defection on Aug. 8 of the Iraqi minister of industry and head of military industrialisation, Hussein Kamel Hassan. The King, who has granted asylum to Lieutenant-General Hassan, said the former Iraqi minister, a son-in-law of President Saddam Hussein and once the second strongest man in Iraq, had opened his eyes to the true

nature of the Iraqi regime.

"The last few days and my meetings with brother Hussein Kamel have helped remove the cloud that has been obscuring my vision for a long time," said the King, adding that he had learnt from Gen. Hassan that Iraq was planning to invade Kuwait in October last year and together with Saudi Arabia this month.

"It would have been a catastrophe..." the King said.

Despite his decision to grant asylum to Gen. Hassan and his criticism of the Iraqi regime, the King said he did not expect Iraq to pose a military threat to Jordan. "As for fears that we may be the target of aggression... I have always stood by the Iraqi army and by the Iraqi people, and I don't believe that this will be my reward," said the King in the 45-minute speech.

However, the King said, Jordan should be prepared for any eventuality and would seek alternative oil supplies

as a precautionary measure.

In an obvious reference to suggestions in the Western press that he might want to return Iraq to Hashemite rule, the King strongly declared that he did not have any ambitions in Jordan's eastern neighbour.

"Before anyone thinks that I have ambitions in Iraq, let me assure everyone, and may God be my witness, that I have no ambitions other than witnessing the day when Iraq will come out of the blinding darkness and from its long night of suffering to a new dawn which will remove all the cause of its suffering, whether external or internal," the King told the nation.

The suffering of the Iraqi people, he said, was not simply the result of the international sanctions imposed on Iraq following its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, but also from the practices that have deprived Iraqi citizens of the most basic human rights.

Expressing dismay that

Iraq had consistently deceived him, the King said the Iraqi leadership's policy, "from the very beginning of our contemporary relations, was based on concealing all matters related to their major policy decisions, starting with their war with Iran and through to their occupation of Kuwait."

Jordan's advice to Iraq during the Gulf crisis "fell on deaf ears, although this advice was always true and honest and in line with our concern for the interest of our nation, its people, the destiny of its generations, and the welfare of Iraq itself."

The King paid tribute to Gen. Hassan as a man who "was prevented by his conscience from attacking his people in his country and voluntarily chose to leave, accepting to face all consequences and refusing to enjoy what the majority of the Iraqi people are deprived of, seeking to save his country and protect its unity and right to life."

Following is an unofficial translation of the King's speech:

In the name of God, The Merciful, The Compassionate

Peace and prayers upon the Arab Hashemite Prophet, and all his house and companions My dear Fellow Jordanians, Fellow Arabs everywhere, God's peace and blessings be upon you all.

IT IS my pleasure to take this opportunity to address every Arab across the vast Arab World, and every member of our dear Jordanian nation, a nation whose valuable trust and confidence I have always enjoyed and reciprocated with equal trust and affection.

I have always stood head-high before the entire world proud of belonging to Jordan, and I will continue to do so for as long as I live.

I have always been sincere in my affection towards our citizens and stood side by side with them under all circumstances.

This stems from the great responsibility that I shoulder as a result of their trust.

My people have known me as an Arab Muslim, a Hashemite Jordanian and they have always known that I have striven and wished for nothing short of predicting the nature of the path ahead and the complicated circumstances that we could face in our march towards the future of generations to come, a future that will provide an umbrella of freedom, justice, dignity, and peace for our future generations.

This noble mission is second only to my desire to seek God's blessings and to enjoy peace of mind.

The future that I envisage is the future of a people within a nation, and a nation within a vast homeland, even beyond their geographical boundaries, a nation that God Almighty willed it to be "the best of nations evolved for mankind."

You have always known,

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Security Council obliged to lift sanctions if Iraq obeys all resolutions — Ekeus

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The U.N. Security Council will have no choice but to lift the sanctions on Iraq if Baghdad fulfils its pledge to implement all the Gulf war ceasefire resolutions, the top U.N. official in charge of disarming Iraq said Wednesday.

Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission for Disarming Iraq, said Baghdad had promised to cooperate "100 per cent" with his team in ensuring the destruction of all its mass destruction weapons.

With that, Mr. Ekeus told a press conference, "the Security Council, all members without exception, should have no choice" but to lift the crippling sanctions that the U.N. has clamped on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

Mr. Ekeus' emphasis on "all members" came in response to a question on whether the United States would veto a Security Council resolution ending the embargo on Iraq in light of its uncompromising policies towards the Iraqi regime.

Mr. Ekeus, who spoke to reporters one day after holding extensive talks with the mastermind of Iraq's weapons programme, Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel Hassan who defected to Jordan Aug. 8, said Iraq had revealed important and "so valuable" data about its clandestine arms programme.

But he stressed the U.N. had learned not to take Iraqi statements at "face value" because of Iraq's record in concealing information from the United Nations in the four years that have elapsed since the Special Commission started its work.

"We cannot take (the Iraqi statements) at their face value. Every time we have done that before, we were misled," said Mr. Ekeus.

Accordingly, Mr. Ekeus said, his commission will not

give Iraq a clean bill of health on its compliance with the Gulf war ceasefire resolutions until it had verified the new data Iraq revealed last week during the commission's four-day mission to Baghdad.

Mr. Ekeus revealed little information about the talks he held with Gen. Hassan to cross-check the information Baghdad provided on its own initiative after the defection of Gen. Hassan, who is former minister of industries and President Saddam Hussein's son-in-law.

He said his talks with Gen. Hassan were held in "a positive spirit" and touched on issues of "common interest."

Mr. Ekeus stressed, however, that Gen. Hassan revealed no information on "Iraq's legitimate security concerns."

Jordanian opposition and political figures have warned against allowing Gen. Hassan to reveal secrets that could harm Iraq's national security. Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker has pledged to Parliament that Jordan will not allow the Iraqi defector to do such a thing.

Mr. Ekeus, who refused to reveal where he met Gen. Hassan, said the former Iraqi official had told him "that Iraq must get rid of its weapons of mass destruction... so that (it) can end its political isolation."

"The Iraqi general is in charge of the situation," said Mr. Ekeus, who added that he will not meet with the Iraqi defector during his current trip any more but that further meetings could be held later on.

Mr. Ekeus said that his commission had confirmed that Iraq does not have the ability to produce nuclear arms, that it has no chemical weapons of any military significance and that it has accounted for all its long-range missiles and thus poses no threat to its neighbours in that regard.

But, he said, Iraq had con-

cealed significant information about its biological weapons programme and a new team of experts arrived in Baghdad yesterday to examine the new data Iraq provided last week.

"Iraq has up till now concealed, for several years, its large biological warfare programme (consisting of biological warfare agents, weaponised systems," Mr. Ekeus said, adding that Iraq had said it had destroyed all these weapons.

"But we have to also investigate and verify the destruction... It is a complex and difficult task," Mr. Ekeus told reporters at the Guest Palace during a press conference that was originally scheduled for Tuesday and was delayed with no explanation.

Mr. Ekeus would not say directly if Iraq's new policy of cooperation with the U.N. was prompted by the defection of Gen. Hassan. But he indicated that this was the case by stressing that the change of Iraqi attitude towards cooperation with the U.N. came after Gen. Hassan's defection, with Iraq cancelling an ultimatum it had given to Mr. Ekeus that if his commission was not done with its work by the end of this month, Baghdad will not cooperate with it any further.

"I'm glad to say that Iraq's highest authority, second highest, during my stay in Baghdad... (said) Iraq will work fully with the U.N. without any time limit," said Mr. Ekeus.

Mr. Ekeus said his team will work with maximum speed to end its mission, adding that Iraq's new cooperative spirit will quicken the process.

"We will make maximum efforts... to put the Security Council in a position to take the necessary decision on the sanctions," said Mr. Ekeus, who arrived in Amman Monday and is expected to leave Thursday.

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An Israeli soldier checks the identity card of a Palestinian woman in Arab East Jerusalem (AFP photo)

Israel says 2 'masterminds' behind bombings arrested

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Two Palestinians suspected of masterminding the suicide bombing of buses in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv for the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, have been arrested, Israel announced Wednesday.

The pair were caught Saturday night, before one of their men blew himself up killing four people and wounding 106 on Monday, the head of Israel's general

security service (Shin Beth) told a press conference. But they only confessed under "interrogation" after the explosion in Jerusalem, said the Shin Beth chief who cannot be identified.

He named them as Nasser Issa, from the Balata refugee camp near the West Bank town of Nablus, and Atem Issmail, from the Gaza Strip.

Both were trained in Gaza by Hamas bomb-maker Yahya Ayyash, a former stu-

dent of electrical engineering whom Israel holds responsible for five of the six bus bombings which have left nearly 70 people dead in the last two years.

Issa and Issmail rented an apartment in Nablus using fake identity papers and began to prepare the operations.

The green light came from a Hamas member from Gaza

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U.N. opens up heavy guns against Serbs

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — The United Nations' new rapid reaction force has blasted Bosnian Serb gunners for the first time with heavy artillery, showing new resolve to defend U.N. peacekeepers around the besieged Bosnian capital of Sarajevo.

The French 155-mm guns — the biggest in the U.N. arsenal — pounded a Serb mortar position after six Egyptian peacekeepers were wounded, two seriously, during a day of fighting between Bosnian government troops

and separatist Serbs on Tuesday.

"It would be 100 per cent right to assume it was hit. This weaponry is state of the art stuff. It doesn't miss and I should think there's fair degree of damage at the other end — and accurate damage," Lieutenant-Colonel Chris Vernon, a U.N. spokesman in Sarajevo, told reporters on Wednesday.

Four 155-mm guns were deployed on Mount Igman, west of Sarajevo, over the weekend. The RRF fired six shells at the Serbs, who have

laid siege to the city for three years.

At least four people died and 32 others were wounded on Tuesday in the worst fighting in the capital in weeks. U.N. officials said government troops fired first but criticised the Serbs for responding with random shelling.

"The Bosnian Serb army retaliated by indiscriminately shelling Sarajevo in the most cowardly manner, causing civilian casualties," Alexander Ivankov, another U.N. spokesman, said on Wednesday.

Military exercises draw to a close

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

QATANA — American and Jordanian soldiers advanced through swirling sand and dust towards an imaginary enemy base and tanks and artillery brought up the rear as their joint military exercises drew to a close on Wednesday.

The exercises, named "Operation Infinite Moonlight 1995," are part of regular American-Jordanian military manoeuvres, planned as early as last December, said Brigadier Hamed Sarairoh, head of training at the Armed Forces.

The war games, which began on Friday, "were pre-planned and predetermined months ago," and have "no relation with the recent defection" of the Iraqi general, said Brig. Sarairoh referring to Hussein Kamel Hassan.

Iraqis minister of industry and son-in-law of President Saddam Hussein who was granted asylum in Jordan on Aug. 8.

But the U.S. administration is obviously using the war games to send another message of strength to Iraq in its bid to isolate the Baghdad government following the defection and as warning against perceived Iraqi threats to Kuwait and Jordan.

The U.S., reporting "unusual" Iraqi troop movements, has moved up joint

exercises with Kuwait after reinforcing its military presence in the Gulf region. The first unit of American soldiers for the war games in Kuwait landed late Tuesday. Colonel Robert Bloese, commander of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit based in Pendleton, California, stressed that it was a "coincidence" that the manoeuvres in Jordan were taking place while tension rose in the region.

"I knew about these exercises in March," said Col. Bloese, 41, of Lewistown, Penn. against the backdrop of growing heavy military vehicles that moved into the interior of the desert to offer support services for the joint Jordanian-American assault force.

"There will be an Operation Infinite Moonlight 1996," he added.

The mock warfare, supported by combat helicopters against a "mythical enemy base," reaches its high point on Thursday when American fighter jets based on the USS Theodore Roosevelt — anchored in the Eastern Mediterranean — fly over and extend support to help the assault unit "capture" the "enemy position."

NBC News reported last week that the Tomcat fighter jets based on the Roosevelt were ordered to join the games and fly over Jordan by

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No shift in position on Jerusalem - Rawabdeh

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan on Wednesday reaffirmed its position that Jerusalem should be the capital of a Palestinian state and pledged to continue efforts to make this objective achievable.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh said Jordan's position had not changed concerning Jerusalem as an occupied Arab land since 1967 and that the Holy City's status as the capital for the Palestinian state will be decided by the Palestinians themselves.

The minister was replying to a question raised by Islamic Action Front (IAF) Deputy Hamzeh Mansour during Wednesday's Lower House of Parliament session on a statement made by Jordan's former ambassador to the United Nations, Adnan Abu Odeh, that Jerusalem will be divided into three parts: Arab, Jewish and a third part that includes the holy places.

"I found that statement as a deviation from Jordan's declared position," Mr. Mansour asserted. "At a time that the Zionist leadership does



Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh

not hide its ambitions and reiterates that Jerusalem is its 'eternal and unified' capital, there has not been any protest or a threat to halt the peace talks. It is worrying."

In the government's written reply to the question, Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti said that Jordan believes that the Palestinians should have their capital in the eastern part of Jerusalem. He added that the holy places "will not belong to any party but will be for us all... all of those who believe in the one God."

Mr. Mansour said that the government's response was in itself contradictory and does

not fall in line with the Kingdom's declared position since Israel occupied Arab East Jerusalem in 1967.

"It said that the Palestinian capital will be in the eastern part and did not say in East Jerusalem. It means that there is an endorsement of the seizure of some parts of occupied East Jerusalem," he said. "Does that correspond with the U.N. resolutions, and does it fall in line with the Jordanian responsibility towards the holy places which were part of Jordanian territory until Jerusalem was occupied?"

Mr. Rawabdeh said that Jordan had not changed its position. "Are going to argue on 'in' and 'the'...? Our stand is not contradictory, but political action is very broad. In one part, there are the aspirations, and in the other there are the realities and capabilities," he said.

"It is not up to Jordan to suspend negotiations," he said. "It was not a Jordanian decision to postpone negotiations on Jerusalem until the final phase. We in Jordan will be on the Palestinians' side until they secure their rights and establish their state... the capital of which will be Jerusalem."

Iran blasts Arafat for bomb charge

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran has rejected an accusation by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat that it supported bombings when it backed Palestinian groups opposed to the PLO-Israel peace process.

Tehran Radio on Wednesday quoted an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman as rejecting Mr. Arafat's remarks as "opportunistic and baseless" and accusing him of helping an Israeli propaganda campaign against Iran.

Mr. Arafat on Monday denounced Iran for funding the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, which claimed responsibility for a suicide bus bombing in Jerusalem that killed five people and wounded 100 earlier in the day.

The radio said Iran had

repeatedly condemned terrorism.

Iran said on Tuesday the bus blast was a "natural reaction" to Israeli violence against Palestinians.

Iran, which denounces PLO's peace with Israel as a sellout, says it only gives political support to groups that oppose it.

"Iran is the one that announced they are supporting such attacks, not me," Mr. Arafat said Tuesday. "Iran knows how much they are paying to carry out these attacks."

Mr. Arafat, speaking with reporters after meeting with German Development Minister Carl Dieter Spranger in Gaza City, also said Palestinians and Israeli extremists were collaborating to halt the peace process.

"We have several docu-

ments to prove the coordination," he said.

"There are fanatics on both sides."

He did not elaborate or reveal the documents.

Following Monday's deadly bombing, Mr. Arafat warned he would "chop off every hand" that gets money or orders from Iran.

On Wednesday, a Palestinian official said Mr. Arafat ordered a manhunt for Yahya Ayyash, the elusive mastermind of most of the recent suicide bombings in Israel.

Palestinian authorities have reliable intelligence information that Mr. Ayyash, nicknamed "the Engineer," is in the PLO-ruled Gaza Strip, moving around with forged identity papers, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Egyptian play banned for criticising regime

CAIRO (AP) — In a rare decision, the government has banned a popular play critical of the regime, reigniting a furor over censorship and freedom in increasingly conservative Egypt.

"Greetings My Masters," a political satire, had played to packed audiences for 35 days and was critically acclaimed for tackling the sensitive issues of democracy and freedom in Egypt, one of the freer Arab states but still under authoritarian rule.

The play was forced to close its doors after Tuesday's performance. The censorship board accused it of "flagrant violation of public morals... damaging the honour of the state and insulting senior officials with no reason."

"Freedom and democracy have limits and when you exceed these limits you threaten the security of the country. They exceeded those limits," said Ahmad Abul Fetouh, a government censor.

The play tells the story of a poor Egyptian, who is so fed up with everything going wrong in Egypt that he decides to run against President Hosni Mubarak in presidential elections.

The play goes beyond other satires by mentioning Mr. Mubarak and government officials by name. While it speaks well of the president, it criticises the other officials and complains about chronic problems in Egypt like food shortages and unemployment.

"The censorship board approved the script, and

there were no deviations from the script," the play's author, Mahmoud Al Toukhy, said in an interview with the Associated Press.

"While I was writing it, I was expecting every line to be stopped," Mr. Toukhy said. "After 35 days I started believing there was freedom, and just when my belief became entrenched, they banned the play and took my belief away."

Shortly before the play opened Tuesday night, riot police carrying the ban order surrounded the downtown theatre and ordered it shut. But they later relented and agreed to let it run one last night since the theatre was already full.

"This is undemocratic behaviour and I do not believe the presidency is aware of it," said Galal Al Shawkawi, the well-acclaimed director of the play, who has had various run-ins with the censorship board in the past.

He promised to challenge the ban in court.

Under Mubarak's 14-year rule, artists, writers and journalists have enjoyed greater freedom. But official censorship remains, and in recent years more and more books and films have been banned for allegedly insulting Islam and offending public morals.

The decision followed a furor earlier this summer when the government handed down a new press law that decreed stiff sentences for publishing false information or defaming the government.

Iraq blames Beirut for diplomat's death in jail

NICOSIA (AP) — Baghdad Wednesday accused the Lebanese authorities of failing to provide swift medical treatment for a jailed Iraqi diplomat who died at a Beirut hospital in late June.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted by the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) as saying that an autopsy performed after the repatriation of Khaled Alwan Khalaf's body showed that "negligence and inaccurate diagnosis" led to his death.

The unnamed spokesman said Iraq wanted a joint Iraqi-Lebanese investigation into the inmate's June 29 death, which he described as an "atrocious crime."

Khalaf, 38, was one of four diplomats arrested in Beirut in connection with the assassination of an Iraqi dissident, Sheikh Taleb Ali Al Suheili, in April 1994. The others remain at the Roumieh prison near Beirut.

Lebanese authorities have said that Khalaf was hospitalized with a heart condition two days before he developed brain hemorrhage and died.

The Iraqi spokesman said Lebanese authorities were "deliberately negligent and offered no medical care for the inmate, allowing him to languish in jail with a serious ailment that left him paralysed from the waist down and barely conscious."

The Iraqi spokesman reiterated that the arrest of the four Iraqis was a violation of Vienna conventions.

NEWS IN BRIEF

French lawyer for Iran attacked, robbed

NICE (R) — A French lawyer for the Iranian government who escaped an assassination attempt six years ago was attacked at his home by hooded robbers who tied him up, stole his car and robbed him of his cash and credit cards on Wednesday. The and stole valuables, credit cards and cash and rifled through William Caruchet's files on Iran, police in the Riviera city of Nice said. Mr. Caruchet, 73, who is also consul for Burkina Faso, told reporters he did not know whether the attack was linked to his work. He said French secret services were involved in the investigation. Six years ago, Mr. Caruchet was attacked by a sniper using a rifle with telescope sights.

Bahrain arrests seven for sabotage

MANAMA (R) — Bahrain said on Wednesday it has arrested seven people for sabotage and attacks on public and private installations in the Gulf Arab state. An Interior Ministry statement did not say when the acts of sabotage took place and did not indicate if they were part of four months of anti-government protests which died down in April. The statement, quoted by the official Gulf News Agency, said the seven "admitted forming a group to carry out acts of sabotage, arson and destruction of public and private property in the areas of Al Diraz and nearby areas." Bahrain said in July it had released between 100 and 150 detainees arrested during the anti-government protests, which had erupted among the Shiite community on Dec. 5. The protesters demanded the release of political prisoners and the restoration of a parliament dissolved in 1975. At least 12 civilians and three policemen were killed and hundreds arrested in the four months of unrest.

Kuwait to set up court to try ministers

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — The Kuwait parliament on Tuesday approved plans to set up a special court to try ministers charged with committing a crime while in office, parliamentary officials said. The new law will put an end to a long running debate in Kuwait on what to do with errant ministers. A committee of inquiry will have the right to question the ministers and any accomplices, arrest them and decide whether they should be brought before the new court to be composed of five appeal court judges. A case against former Oil and Finance Minister Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, accused of misappropriating public funds, has been postponed several times because no one could decide where he should be tried. A Kuwait criminal court in June finally agreed to continue the hearing.

Iran planning strike, Mujahedeen say

DUBAI (AFP) — Iran's main armed opposition group, Mujahedeen-e-Khalq accused Tehran Wednesday of massing troops near the border with Iraq in preparation for an attack against the group. The Iraq-based Mujahedeen said in a statement issued from Baghdad that Iran had "amassed three divisions of its forces near the border with Iraq in Kermanshah province with the objective of attacking the National Liberation Army," the group's armed wing. It also warned the troops were looking to "intervene in Iraq should a suitable situation develop." Iran last attacked a Mujahedeen base in early July, targeting the group's biggest camp at Ashraf 50 kilometres inside Iraq. On July 10 three Mujahedeen members were shot dead in Baghdad in an attack the group blamed on "Iranian agents." The Iranian government daily Iran blamed the Mujahedeen last week for two bomb explosions in oil installations in Ahwaz, the main city of the Khuzestan province which borders Iraq. The Mujahedeen denied the charges saying Iran intended to use it as a pretext to attack their bases in Iraq. No particular troop movements within Iran have been indicated, according to Iranian sources.

Moroccan airline to begin S. Africa flights

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Morocco's national airline, Royal Air Maroc, said it would begin a weekly service between Casablanca and the South African commercial capital Johannesburg next week. The airline said in a statement sent to South African travel agents the first flight from Casablanca to Johannesburg will land on Sept. 1, returning to Casablanca later the same day. Officials at Royal Air Maroc were not available for comment on the new service which will link up with flights to the airline's other destinations in Europe, the Middle East and the United States. The opening of the service follows the suspension earlier this month of Sudan Airways' London-to-Johannesburg flights and the provisional liquidation of South African discount airline Avia, which offered cut-price tickets to London.

Stevie Wonder sees holy land 'in spirit'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Blind rockstar Stevie Wonder prepared for his first concert in Israel on Wednesday saying he was happy "to see the holy land in spirit." When "I was very small, before my mother had accepted that I was visually impaired, she wanted to bring me to the Holy City in hope I would get my sight," Mr. Wonder told reporters Tuesday night. The miracle had not taken place, but Mr. Wonder said God had given him "the gift of inner sight." He was to perform at the Sultan's Pools beneath the walls of Old Jerusalem late Wednesday and in Tel Aviv's national stadium on Saturday. In between he will tour the country meeting Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Yasser Arafat's adviser Ahmad Tibi as well as 50 blind children.

U.S.: Sudan rebels killed 200 civilians last month

NAIROBI (AFP) — The United States on Wednesday accused fighters of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) of killing more than 200 civilians and causing the displacement of thousands of others in southern Sudan last month.

A statement issued by the U.S. embassy here said independent sources indicated that SPLA forces were involved in the attacks on Ganyiel and Paynjayr villages on July 30.

"Most of the dead were civilians, more than half were children, and thousands of people were rendered homeless after their villages were burned," the statement added.

"The United States calls on the Sudan People's Liberation Movement to investigate this atrocity and take appropriate measures against those responsible," it said. It urged all forces fighting in southern Sudan, to free the mainly Christian and animist region from domination by the Muslim, Arabised north, to respect the rights of civilians, and cooperate with neighbouring countries trying to mediate a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

The SPLA, headed by General John Garang, has denied that its fighters were responsible for the violence, blaming it on cattle rustlers. The area where the killings took place is under the control of SPLA's rival group, the South Sudan Independence Movement (SSIM), led by Riek Machar.

On Monday, SSIM charged that the SPLA had declared war on it and had ruled out reconciliation talks. However, the chairman of SPLA's peace committee, Pagan Amun, said Wednesday that his group was "ready at any moment to discuss and cooperate fully with SSIM" to resolve political and administrative issues that were de-

ferred during the Lafon Declaration on reconciliation in April.

But he added that the "leadership crisis" within SSIM had made it difficult to proceed with the meetings of the joint committee on reunification.

SSIM last week denied claims by Mr. Nyuon and another dissident, John Luk Jok, that they had deposed the group's leader, Riek Machar.

"The SPLA wants to reiterate once again that our struggle is directed against the oppressors of the people of southern Sudan and other marginalised areas. There is no reason whatsoever for anybody to provoke inter-ethnic fighting again in southern Sudan," Pagan said in a statement released here.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter visited Sudan last month to continue efforts to end the civil war there and called in Nairobi for unity talks between the rebels, saying: "I think it would be constructive to have unity within the southern command."

Mystery surrounds Saddam relative's stand on defections

GENEVA (R) — Rumours that Barzan Ibrahim Al Tikriti, Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, might join two top Iraqis who defected have spawned a summer soap opera that is captivating this city of diplomats.

Mystery surrounds Barzan, who as President Saddam Hussein's half-brother, presidential adviser and former head of Iraqi intelligence could deal a heavy blow if he did defect.

But despite the rumours, and reports suggesting that he had changed camps, an Iraqi official in Geneva said Barzan was still in the Swiss city and still heading the mission.

"The ambassador, the permanent representative of Iraq in Geneva, is still accredited," said U.N. spokeswoman Therese Gastaut. "It's like reading a soap opera plot," said one senior Western diplomat who has followed the saga with interest.

Mr. Barzan is often referred to as President Saddam's banker, the man who looks after President Saddam's hard currency reserves abroad, although that has never been confirmed.

The rumour mill began grinding when an Iraqi opposition radio station said last week Mr. Barzan had refused to return to Iraq from Switzerland for consultations among Iraq's ruling family on the defection crisis.

Western newspapers followed up with reports that Barzan had clearly aligned himself with Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel Hassan, one of President Saddam's two sons-in-law who defected to Jordan along with their wives on Aug. 8.

Iraq's diplomatic mission said on Tuesday, however, that Mr. Barzan was still its ambassador, still in Geneva, and simply too busy to respond to the reports.

"The ambassador is not concerned about these allegations in the media," an Iraqi official said.

Dissidents say a family rift was caused by the growing influence of President Saddam's sons Uday and Qusay, who were out to seize power

after rising to be chief of the Iraqi intelligence service, political adviser to President Saddam and ambassador at the Foreign Ministry.

"We don't know whose side he (Barzan) is on since there was an attempt on his brother's life," one Western diplomat said. Another suggested that the whole story had been fabricated by the Iraqi opposition to further destabilise President Saddam.

One Arab ambassador said he did not believe in the stories about Mr. Barzan defecting — but thought he may well have refused to return to Baghdad when he was summoned and was waiting for the dust to settle.

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JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME TWO

13:30 — Irs-Happy Professor
13:40 — Noddy
14:00 — Fietman Sam
14:15 — My Secret Identity
14:30 — NBA
15:00 — Pirates Island
15:20 — Take Your Pick
16:00 — I Witness Video
17:00 — Children's Programme — Rahan
17:30 — Varieties and Game Show
19:00 — News in French
19:15 — Magazine — Portrait D'Alain Cavalier
19:30 — News Headlines
19:35 — National Geographic
20:30 — The Album Show
21:15 — Murder She Wrote
22:00 — News in English
22:25 — Feature Film: "Case Closed"
22:59 — Perfect Stranger

PRAYER TIMES

04:38 — Fair
06:00 — (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:30 — Dhuhr
16:16 — 'Asr
19:16 — Maghrib
20:38 — 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Switzerland, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

323785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
The Holy Family Church Tel. 661757
Berrassat Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623641.
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 773331.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 824326.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel. 625226.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824326.
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 664145.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932.
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be fair with clouds appearing at low altitudes and winds northwesterly moderate to active. On Friday, temperatures are expected to rise slightly with moderate summer weather conditions prevailing. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 192 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 671701
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Bus Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636361
RJ Flight Information 06-53300
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53300

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
04:25 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
05:45 Adon (RJ)
06:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
08:15 Adon (RJ)
08:15 Dhahran, Riyadh (RJ)
08:35 Muscat, Dhahran (RJ)
10:35 Muscat, Dhahran (RJ)
11:00 Colombo (RJ)
11:00 New Delhi (RJ)
17:50 London (RJ)
18:30 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
19:00 Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)
19:15 Athens (RJ)
20:00 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
20:00 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
20:40 Rome (RJ)
21:20 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
00:15 Larnaca (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)
13:40 Doha (QF)
13:40 Sharjah (AH)
13:40 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
14:00 Riyadh (SV)
17:00 Rome (AZ)

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information

MARKET PRICES

Upplower price in fils per kg.
Apple 700/500
Banana 680
Banana (Mukammal) 620
Cabbage 120/80
Carrot 320/220
Cauliflower 150/100
Cucumbers (large) 280/200
Cucumbers (small) 280/200
Eggplant 200/100
Figs 350/280
Garlic 680/500
Lemon 450/300
Lemon (large) 600/450
Marrow (large) 380/250
Marrow (small) 380/250
Mushrooms 120/80
Okra 150/100
Onion (dry) 230/150
Onion (wet) 480/380
Pepper (hot) 200/100
Pepper (sweet) 200/100
Potato 280/200
String Beans 550/400
Sweet Melon 280/180
Tomato 140/80
Water Melon 180/100

in attacked, robbed

for the Iranian govern-
n attempt six years
ed robbers who tied
said on Wednesday
it cards and cash
r. Caruchet, 73, who
d reporters he did not
in the investigation, was
ked by a sniper using

ven for sabotage

said on Wednesday
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Gulf Arab state. An
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protests which died
d by the official Gulf
ited forming a group
as of Al Diraz and
it had released be-
during the anti-govern-
among the Shiite com-
manded the release of
of a parliament dis-
three policemen were
e four months of



Her Royal Highness Princess Rahma Bint Al Hassan Wednesday attends the launch of the Sabila activities and the competition for the Crown Prince Golden Award (Petra photo)

Princess Rahma launches annual Sabila activities

FUHEIS (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Rahma Bint Al Hassan Wednesday launched the three-week Sabila activities and competition for The Crown Prince Golden Award for 1995.

Sabila is a national programme which encourages young people volunteer their services in order to foster the sense of national belonging and to promote tolerance of differences and a genuine awareness of society's needs.

Twenty young women and men will be participating in this year's programme.

Addressing the group gathered at the Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC), Princess Rahma said the Crown Prince, who initiated the voluntary programme, believes that giving young people an opportunity to offer meaningful service to their country through different programmes under the Crown Prince Golden Award is an important and valuable learning experience.

JCFC Board Chairman Bassam Sakar also addressed the young group and said they should pay particular attention this year

Deputy cites 'Islamophobia' over sports club licence rejection

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An Islamist parliamentarian Wednesday accused the government of being 'Islamophobic' for refusing to grant a licence for a sports club in Zarqa Governorate.

Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat ignored the comment and said another application should be filed and a licence would be granted if the required conditions were met.

In questioning the minister, Lower House of Parliament Deputy Bassam Emoush said that an application for a sports club named 'Al Farouq' had been filed two years ago, but the Ministry of Youth had rejected it without giving an explicit reason.

Quoting Article 16 of the Constitution, Deputy Emoush said Jordanians had the right to establish societies and political parties and that 'rotary clubs are very active in Jordan although freemason activities have been banned.'

He claimed that the rejection had come from the Ministry of Interior 'which does not want to see a new banner

for Islamic action. I don't know when the ministry's Islamophobic attitude will end.'

In his reply during the session of the Lower House of Parliament on Wednesday, Dr. Khleifat said that the rejection to give the club a licence was made in accordance with the law.

According to 1987 regulations on club registrations, the Minister of Youth has the right to decide to accept or reject an application for licensing after consultation with the governor under whose jurisdiction the proposed club would be, Dr. Khleifat said.

'There were many accusations (by Dr. Emoush) even though my answer was clear, precise and correct,' Dr. Khleifat said. 'The ministry has never rejected any club if it was not upon the recommendation of the governor.'

'It was a sound decision and in line with the law,' he added.

'They (the applicants) are free to submit another application which, if found in accordance with the law and regulations, may be accepted.'

Cultural forum on theatre sees no 'meeting of the minds'

By Haya Hussein
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

Amman — The Fourth Cultural Forum on Jordanian theatre ends today after five days that exposed a glaring gap in communication between theatre researchers and theatre arts practitioners.

The forum, organised by the Ministry of Culture, 'to bridge gaps in Arab culture and to promote exchange between artists in the Arab world,' according to Ministry of Culture Secretary General, Mohammad Amareh, brought together researchers and artists from Egypt, Syria, Palestine and Iraq.

Mr. Amareh initially spoke of the need to approach the subject of theatre democratically and freely, to understand the limitations of a field that is beset by budgetary woes and a notable lack of theatre-going traditions.

But differences exposed among participants in the forum centred around subject matter and transformed constructive debate into personal bickering.

Controversial presentations included discussions on the history of Jordanian theatre during which, partic-

ipants claim, factual errors were reported as well as a 'personal attack' levelled against Jordanian theatre arts founder Hani Snobar, provoking angry reactions from those attending.

A working paper criticising the ideological complacency of institutions in dealing with Theatre in Education (TIE) also provoked angry responses.

The latter presentation came from Drama in Education (DIE) teacher and researcher Samar Dudin who criticised what she said was the lack of long-term strategies for DIE practices and traditions in the country.

Drama in Education is an educational means of bringing students closer to information and knowledge by the dramatic creation of a role in the context of a subject, leading to the student's discovery of how and why things happen and their roles in the real world.

Ms. Dudin argued against a complacent acceptance of TIE practices by non-governmental organisations closely affiliated to the ideology of government policies.

'The practice of TIE here merely scratches the surface of meaning. Experiments are tried, but no follow ups are

Jordanian, Palestinian business council reviews proposals to MENA conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian-Palestinian Business Council (JPBC) met in Amman Wednesday to review preparations for the October Middle East and North Africa (MENA) conference and to listen to a report on infrastructure projects presented by Jawad Naji, assistant under-secretary of the Palestine Ministry of Economy and Trade.

Dr. Naji told the meeting that the Palestinian side had prepared a package of infrastructure projects to be carried out by public and private sectors at the local and regional level.

According to Dr. Naji

these projects, to be presented along with Jordanian projects in a joint paper to the October conference, include proposals for establishing Jordanian-Palestinian companies to conduct re-insurance services, transport of goods, artificial and natural leather tanning, vehicle parts assembly, the extraction of Dead Sea minerals as well as proposals to build up Dead Sea tourism and establish textile industries.

The proposal further includes services in education, industrial and vocational training, in addition to the creation of an industrial zone on Jordanian-Palestian borders.

Joint work in this regard will be in implementation of resolutions taken by the JPBC meeting held here in June, said Hamdi Tabba'a, who is head of the Jordanian side of JPBC as well as chairman of the Jordanian Businessmen's Association (JBA) which is sponsoring the meeting.

The agricultural committee formed by the JPBC also met in Amman Wednesday to set up a Jordanian-Palestinian company for marketing agricultural products.

The projected company whose capital will be JD 5 million, divided equally

between both sides, is required to market the agricultural products of Jordan and Palestine in Arab and foreign countries, a statement said after the meeting.

According to the statement the company will export produce to Europe between Nov. and April and to the Arab states in the summer. It will also import and market agricultural needs such as fertilisers, seeds, and irrigation equipment.

It also said the company aims to achieve agricultural integration between the two countries, and plan production and marketing programmes.

Jordan, Egypt committee to review economic, political reports

CAIRO (Petra) — The Higher Jordanian-Egyptian committee co-chaired by the prime ministers of both countries is to convene by mid-September in Amman to review two separate political and economic reports.

The committee, which last met in Cairo in March, will also review progress on the implementation of that meeting's resolutions and direct attention to issues of

concern to the countries, according to a statement Wednesday.

The political report tackles regional issues, the peace process and both countries' support of the Arab League's efforts in ending differences among Arab countries, the statement said.

The economic report outlines strategies aimed at encouraging investments, highlighting the role of the

private sector and trade exchanges between Cairo and Amman as well as customs duty exemptions of a list of national goods traded between the two sides, the statement said.

The statement also said trade exchange this year was expected to reach the \$16 million mark.

The committee will discuss the implementation of joint agreements between

1995 and 1997 as agreed during the March meeting and will look into means for upgrading cooperation in education, tourism, information, sports, the environment and the employment of labour force, the statement said.

Jordan will also raise the issue of importing Egyptian natural gas and will review progress on the linkage of electric power grids.

Mujahadeen say

ain armed opposition g-
ith Iraq in preparation
Iraq-based Mujahadeen
ghad that Iran had
near the border with
he objective of an-
the group's interest
looking to 'intervene
develop.' Iran last an-
targeting the group's
inside Iraq, on July 11,
shot dead in Baghdad
Iranian agents. The
ed the Mujahadeen la-
oil installations in Al-
province which border
charges saying Iran at-
tack their bases in Iraq
within Iran have been
sources.

egin S. Africa flight

Morocco's national a-
ould begin a weekly
e South African com-
week. The airline said
an travel agents the first
esburg will land on Se-
r the same day. Office
available for comment is
up with flights to the ar-
e the Middle East and
of the service follow-
of the Sudan Airways' low-
the provisions of the
ne Avia, which offered

holy land 'in split

(AFP) — Blind mo-
his first concert in Jeru-
ppy "to see the holy
mall, before my mother
mpaired, she wanted to
I would get my sight."
ay night. The miracle he
said God had given him
to perform at the Sa-
id Jerusalem late Wed-
dium on Saturday. In-
ter Prime Minister Yase-
er Ahmad Tibi as well

WHAT'S GOING ON

FILM
"Who framed Roger Rabbit?" at the British Council, at 7:00 p.m.

DARAT AL FUNUN
SUMMER '95 EXHIBITIONS
Works of graphic art by several artists. "Photography show 'Elements in Harmony' by Hala Hodeib. "Display of painted stone and steel, 'Embargo Art' by Iraqi artist Nuh Al Radi. "Early Morning Scribbles" by Lebanese artist Amin Al Basha and Jordanian artist Rajwa Bint Ali and "Late Night Scribbles" by Amin Al Basha and artist Ali Bermannet. "Ceramic shop. Sculpture by Rajwa Bint Ali. "Works by contemporary artists.

Developmental choices: A risky business without exchange and cooperation

THE THIRD Jordanian Science Week will open at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC), under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, chairman of the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST), on Saturday. The theme of this year's session is "Earth Resources — Towards Optimal Exploitation." The ideas and exchanges between key players from both the public and private sector on the four main themes that will be covered — mineral resources, water, energy and environment — should move us to a clearer vision of future needs and constraints. This is in line with one of the HCST's range of complementary activities that include supporting applied and inter-disciplinary research and human resource development in the field of research and technology to working towards promoting science and technology to the service of the developmental process. In isolation, without the impetus of strong interaction with both the public and private sectors, science and technology can never succeed in seeing its output applied. The public, private and science and technology sectors together can add to the developmental process, bringing people to work together. Such a process is limited to the number of participants. Therefore, the science week can provide a healthy forum for interaction, bringing people together within an interdisciplinary format for dialogue and the exchange of information towards better developmental options.

The following article, written by Dr. Khaled Shriedeh, HCST Assistant secretary general, and Dalia Al Jabri, the centre's information officer, highlights the benefits to be gained from such encounters.

Developmental choices are so numerous, with increasingly stringent options; too few resources, too many needs and constant economic pressure that the wrong choices can prove to be a time bomb. Demand exceeds supply in the face of growing populations and higher life expectancy in an age where everyone — even in the developing part of an inequitable globe — dreams of

soaring pollution levels and irretrievable loss. To meet as many of the multiple economic, social and environmental needs of society as possible, integrated land resources management and conflict of interest resolution must become an essential part of the developmental process. Otherwise, permanent destruction and degradation of the land's capability to provide economic and environmental returns and the inefficient use and waste of resources will result. The inevitable accumulating impacts that go beyond localised and national damages to develop into cumulative international problems are becoming increasingly weighed with the pressured increase in the world's population and corresponding needs.

National developmental policy should balance the titled equation of rapidly increasing population requirements and land resource constraints. To achieve this, certain strategies are required to overcome barriers to conflict of interest resolution and integrated land resource management, enhancing cooperation and coordination among the parties concerned. This requires internal decisions on

resource allocation — on the issues of exploitation vs. conservation, and the economic realities of their implicit responsibility to the future — that will have an increasing bearing on regional and even international levels, impacting the future of society. The major barriers can be identified as limited access to appropriate information and technology; weaknesses in institutional infrastructure, unsustainable land use practices and conflicts between different land use goals. Science and technology can contribute to the removal of such barriers but political will and economic clout are equally essential for the commitment and resources necessary to solve developmental problems with studied goals.

At some point, this process coincides with regional trends with cross-border collaboration mandatory in everything from water resources to energy options. The realities of limited financial resources required to obtain needed information and technologies, as well as within-country infrastructure and personnel limitations mandate a commitment to the pooling of resources among countries with common interests, goals and methods through

a neutral administrative structure. Prior to this necessary eventuality, each nation must evolve a national consensus on the required objectives and modalities at both official and popular levels — within the parameters of sustainable development.

Science provides the information and understanding necessary to evaluate the consequences of alternative approaches to land and resource management, and the relevant technologies for the most effective means to ensure social requirements. Fulfilling basic needs. Jordan's drive towards the developmental returns of science and technology has led to the institutionalisation of its interests and the creation of many forums for the exchange of science and technology expertise and decision-making at the national level, with regional and international channels of cooperation. One such forum is the Science Week, which at the initiation of Prince Hassan has hosted the multi-sectorial interaction of all directly, or indirectly, involved in science and technology activity, now for its third consecutive year.

The Third Jordanian Science Week will run from

Aug. 26-31 under the theme of "Earth Resources — Towards Optimal Exploitation" at the directive of Prince Hassan, in a bid to crystallise national land resource management policy in the face of future developmental challenges. This activity will allow a logical sequence of interactions allowing stakeholders to express and identify socio-economic and environmental needs and develop consensus on land-use options; identifying spatial planning units (i.e. national park policy); and possibly identifying infrastructural needs at the institutional, legislative and cadastral levels to further ensure agreed-upon land uses and long term management.

The "Earth Resources" week aims at providing added incentives for integration between all institutions dealing with land resources in the Kingdom, towards a mutual visualisation of sustainable and comprehensive development, and the introduction of sophisticated scientific and technological methodologies and techniques such as multiple goal programming as a form of conflict resolution for developmental dilemmas, with an objective approach to bringing peo-

ple to work together by reaching an integrated developmental consensus at the national level. The aim is to maximise the full participation of both the public and the private sector, grouping players from key institutions involved in land resource management.

The "Earth Resources" week proposes to offer a sound approach to setting the stage for the four main themes that will be covered — mineral resources, water, energy and environment, offering scientific material and specialised case studies under each theme, an array of science and technology applications optimising the utilisation of each single resource — or its conservation and inter-disciplinary case studies tackling the four themes simultaneously, taking them all into consideration within a given situation — as in the case of the Jordanian badia. There will also be a final wrap-up panel discussion benefiting from an overall perspective of the themes. All in all, the presentations will include some 26 scientific papers, 19 specialised case studies, 24 scientific and technological applications and five interdisciplinary case studies. There will also be a thematic exhibition of the

four themes, parallel to the ongoing sessions. This will include the data base "Jordan: Facts and Figures" displaying socio-economic indicators spanning the last four decades, prepared for use during the Middle East and North Africa Economic Summit, to be held in Amman in October.

Through these activities, it is hoped to achieve a tour de force of base-line data and information bringing people together to discuss — each from their own perspective — the promotion of science and technology techniques and methodologies to future land resource planning and management, and executive measures for the implementation and determination of the roles of the different parties concerned. This will set the stage for the interaction necessary to reach consensus, acting as a sounding board of data review, benefitting the Jordanian position prior to the Economic Summit with the identification of the vision and mission of potential focal points for investment as part of an integrated and coordinated national resource management policy, fit to confront the liability of choices impacting the future of generations to come.

Zaire resumes expulsions 100,000 Rwanda, Burundi refugees flee camps

OUTSIDE MUGUNGA

CAMP, Zaire (R) — Zairean soldiers expelled more Rwandan and Burundian refugees on Wednesday while over 100,000 have fled to a homeland where they fear death.

The fourth day of deportations was marked by stepped up talks in Zaire and abroad to end the humanitarian crisis likely to become more acute if thousands of refugees run out of food or fall sick.

In Mugunga Camp, hundreds of Rwandan refugees scattered in panic as the first Zairean troops arrived as usual at 10 a.m. (0800 GMT) and started grabbing them.

Hutu refugees who refuse to go home for fear of reprisals for last year's genocide in Rwanda fled to nearby hills but scores of others, resigned to their fate, lined up to be put aboard trucks and buses before being dumped at the border.

"For Tutsis in Rwanda all young people here are killers," refugee Wiman Donet said before running away as a Zairean army truck approached. "They

will kill us if we go back."

Mugunga, until Saturday home for 150,000 refugees who fled to Zaire last year, includes Hutu refugees suspected of involvement in last year's genocide of up to a million Tutsis and moderate Hutus by Hutu militiamen and troops.

The Zairean deportations have prompted an estimated 25,000 Hutu refugees to flee Mugunga and 85,000 to leave five camps around the town of Uvira to the south.

UNHCR officials said the last camp to empty near Uvira was Kajembo. Its 24,000 refugees escaped to a forest when army trucks arrived Tuesday.

U.N. officials said the rate of deportations from Uvira was dropping because refugees were proving hard to find.

A Zairean army delegation was due in the Zairean border town of Goma Wednesday and it appeared talks might focus on the U.N. refugee agency offering to take over repatriation if refugees requested it.

Carol Faubert, special envoy of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said the UNHCR

was receiving signals from refugees that they would go home if their return was voluntary.

"I hope things are moving," he told reporters. Talks are under way in the Zairean capital Kinshasa, in Goma, in refugee camps near the town of Bukavu to the south and in the U.N. Security Council.

"Everybody is consulting with everybody," he said. A Zairean colonel in charge of clearing Mugunga said his soldiers were making no distinction between former Hutu Rwandan government troops and civilians in the camp when they selected those to be dumped at the Rwandan border.

"All we know is that for us these people are Rwandans," he told Reuters.

Some former Rwandan soldiers were in a first batch of 200 people expelled Saturday, but few have been seen since.

Zairean troops, accused of beating and robbing refugees, expelled a total of 13,000 Rwandans and Burundians by the end of Tuesday. U.N. officials said they had unconfirmed reports of soldiers raping

refugee women.

U.N. officials said they expected some refugee leaders to ask the UNHCR to escort them home rather than be left to the Zairean troops, possibly leading to a voluntary repatriation programme.

Zaire says it is determined to expel the refugees until the United Nations announces their repatriation. But at the present rate of expulsions it would take the Zairean army more than seven months to throw out the more than one million Rwandan refugees and 70,000 Burundians in eastern Zaire.

The president of the U.N. Security Council told Zaire on Tuesday to stop the expulsions, which are also condemned by the United States.

A little Rwandan boy and his baby brother atop a bicycle look suspiciously at Rwandan soldiers guarding the border between Zaire and Rwanda after having been expelled by Zairean soldiers (Reuters photo)



India's Premier jeered at train crash site

NEW DELHI (R) — Angry protesters jeered Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao on Wednesday when he visited the grim site of India's worst train crash, officials said.

The protesters accused the government of inept relief operations and of suppressing the death toll from Sunday's crash, in which at least 850 people died when a passenger express ploughed into a stationary train at Perambur, 200 kilometres from New Delhi, they told Reuters by telephone.

An irate crowd blocked the entrance to the Sarojini Naidu hospital and Mr. Rao was forced to enter through a back door to visit about 60 injured survivors, some in critical condition.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said police used clubs

to disperse protestors who shouted slogans against the government and claimed the administration had withheld information about the number of dead.

Since Sunday's disaster, the administration's official death toll has consistently been well below the rescuers' estimate of at least 350 dead.

Late on Tuesday the official toll was 278 dead, but Perambur civil hospital's chief medical superintendent told PTI 299 post-mortem examinations had been performed so far.

About 175 bodies had been identified and were burnt in rows of funeral pyres in the open on Tuesday, watched by officials and thousands of residents.

Some crushed bodies still

lay rotting, tangled in the debris left by the high-speed collision, which occurred when an express slammed into a stationary train.

In the Indian capital, the lower house of parliament was forced to adjourn for two hours when deputies of the opposition Janata Dal Party protested that their leader had been barred from making a statement on the train disaster.

Both the opposition and a breakaway faction of the ruling congress party have demanded that Mr. Rao, who took over the railways ministry last week from an ailing minister, resign.

Congress rebels said relief measures were inadequate and even sheets were not available to cover mutilated bodies.

A leftist students' group burnt an effigy of Mr. Rao in the eastern city of Calcutta Tuesday in protest against alleged government inaction towards rail accidents and safety.

Mr. Rao, who has blamed the collision on human error, has ordered a probe into the accident. He announced grants of 10,000 rupees (\$320) to families of the dead and 5,000 rupees (\$160) to the seriously injured.

Mulayam Singh Yadav, the former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh state, said his Samajwadi Party was offering 500,000 rupees (\$16,000) relief to victims' families.

Senior railway officials said a signalman had given the second express the green

signal without checking whether the first had left his sector. An initial probe has blamed the signalman for the disaster. He has since gone missing.

Officials also said the guard aboard the first train had failed to switch on a flashing light as a warning that his train, forced to halt after hitting a cow, was stationary.

India's previous worst train accident was in 1981 when 270 people were killed after a train plunged into the Bagmati River in the northern state of Bihar.

It was the third major train accident in India this year. There have been at least 30 serious crashes in the past decade.

Taiwan president to run for 2nd term

TAIPEI (R) — President Lee Teng-hui announced Wednesday his intention to run for a second term in Taiwan's first direct presidential elections, drawing swift condemnation from stalwarts even within his ruling party.

"After long and careful consideration I have decided to run," Mr. Lee told a congress of the ruling Nationalist Party. The elections are due in March 1996.

But despite earlier entreaties from Mr. Lee and several congress delegates for unity, Nationalist Party vice-chairman Han Pei-tsun voiced his immediate opposition to Mr. Lee's bid — raising the spectre of a split in party ranks.

"The man in power should not hold power for too long," Mr. Han told journalists.

"His term is up," said Mr. Han, who added that it would be a "prudent contribution" if Mr. Lee were to hand over power.

Mr. Han, a former prime minister who came to Taiwan from China with Chiang Kai-shek's defeated armies in 1949, has had long-standing differences with Mr. Lee — Taiwan's first native-born president who took office in 1988.

In a related development, a main rival withdrew his candidacy for the Nationalist Party's nomination, meaning that Mr. Lee was now running unopposed for the party's endorsement.



A picture released by the Indian government Wednesday of Western hostages in Srinagar. From left to right: Keith Mangan (UK), Donald Hutchings (US), Dirk Hasert (Germany) and Paul Wells (UK) (Reuters photo)

Rebel group releases pictures, tape of Kashmir hostages

SRINAGAR (AP) — The Indian government Wednesday released recent photographs of four Western hostages being held by Kashmiri separatists and an audio cassette tape with the captives saying they are alive and well.

The captives all look fit in the photographs, even though the Al Faran separatist group had released earlier photos showing two of them wearing bloody bandages and a statement saying they had been wounded in a battle with Indian forces.

The captives — an American, two Britons and a German — said their photographs and interviews were taken Friday, five days after the decapitated body of a fifth hostage, Hans Christian Ostro, 27, of Oslo, Norway, was found in a village

of Kashmir.

"My name is Donald Hutchings. This interview is taking place on Aug. 18, 1995. I am fit well and have no problems. Jane, I love you," the American hostage said on the tape, which was released at a news conference by Indians officials.

Jane is Mr. Hutchings' wife, who like other relatives of the captives, has been waiting in New Delhi for their release.

The other three hostages gave similar statements on the cassette and said they too were speaking Aug. 18.

The kidnappers released a group photo of the four hostages reading an Urdu newspaper, and four individual photos showing them holding sheets of paper showing the date Aug. 18.

Last week, government officials who have been

negotiating with the captives over the telephone or two-way radios nearly every day since the kidnappings began July 4, asked Al Faran to provide proof that the hostages are alive and in good health.

The Al Faran guerrillas have threatened to kill the captives unless India frees 15 of their jailed comrades, a demand India has repeatedly refused to accept.

Besides Mr. Hutchings, 42, of Spokane, Washington, the captives include Keith Mangan, 33, of Middlesbrough, England; Paul Wells, 23, of London; and Dirk Hasert, 26, of Erfurt, Germany.

Another American, John Childs, escaped from Al Faran guerrillas four days after being captured.

Majority opposes Clinton's efforts to restrict tobacco ads

NEW YORK (AFP) — A majority of Americans oppose a significant part of President Bill Clinton's aggressive campaign against tobacco use by teenagers, a new poll conducted by a major news agency revealed Tuesday.

Fifty-eight per cent of those polled were against the proposed ban on using brand names and logos on T-shirts or in sporting events, such as the Virginia Slims tennis tournament, or the Winston Cup auto racing contest.

And relatively few, just 40 per cent, of those surveyed supported a chief idea behind the regulations — that tobacco companies actively use promotion and publicity campaigns in efforts to get young people to begin smoking.

"The president and the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) commissioner both said very clearly and loudly that they believe this advertising is targeted at kids. Well, apparently, the public is not ready to buy that assertion," said Walker Meryman, spokesman for the Tobacco Institute, a pro-tobacco industry group.

However, 73 per cent support Mr. Clinton's plan to force the tobacco industry to spend \$150 million dollars per year on an advertising campaign to discourage smoking by teens.

China releases white paper on family planning

BELING (Agencies) — China Wednesday released a white paper on family planning, saying "unacceptable" human rights criticism of its strict policy ignored the challenges posed by a population of 1.2 billion people.

The 17,000-character paper entitled "Family Planning in China" was released by the state council, and carried in excerpts by Xinhua news agency, just ahead of the opening here of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

China's controversial "one-child" policy is expected to be the target of attacks by some of the 36,000 women expected in the Chinese capital for the conference's non-governmental organisation (NGO) forum, which begins Aug. 30.

Arguing that the policy was the only way to stop growth of China's massive population from bringing social, economic and environmental disaster, the white paper accused "some people" of "distorting and disregarding the basic facts."

"These people have made improper comments on China's family planning programme, criticising it as a violation of human rights and denouncing it as inhumane," it said, accusing them of using the pretext of preventing abuse to impose foreign values and interfere in this country's internal affairs.

"This is totally unacceptable," Xinhua quoted the white paper as saying, the policy — implemented nationwide since the early

1980s — limits urban couples to just one child, while allowing many rural couples two children — or even three if they belong to certain ethnic minority groups — at intervals of several years.

Failure to comply carries fines and other heavy penalties, including social ostracism and the possible dismissal from all-important work units that provide housing and welfare for many urban citizens.

The policy has been criticised internationally amid numerous reports of intense pressure being put on women carrying "out-of-plan" children, of involuntary sterilisations and of forced abortions — often during the final stages of pregnancy.

The white paper acknowledged only that "the working style and service level of family planning remain to be improved in most rural areas, especially in those economically underdeveloped ones."

Reiterating China's stance that human rights was not an inflexible universal principle but was closely related to national conditions, it stressed that limiting the number of births was "a duty incumbent of every (Chinese) citizen" for the good of the whole nation.

"To carry out family planning is the correct choice for China to ensure human rights," it said, adding that allowing "indiscriminate reproduction" would halt economic development and sentence the whole popula-

tion to poverty.

China says it has right to refuse visas for women's conference

In another development Tuesday, a government spokesman said China can refuse visas for an upcoming international women's meetings to anyone it views as opposed to U.N. principles or as a security risk.

The comments by foreign ministry spokesman Chen Jian come with women's groups complaining that thousands of people have not gotten visas for the meetings in Beijing.

Only a "very, very small number" of visa applicants will be denied, Mr. Chen told reporters at a briefing.

The U.N.-sponsored world conference on women will be held Sept. 4-15 in Beijing. A parallel meeting of non-governmental organisations that will lobby the conference, will be held in Huairou, 50 kilometres to the north, from Aug. 30-Sept. 8.

Critics have said China may be trying to delay the visa process to limit the number of participants and control the meetings. Some groups that want to attend support gay rights, Tibetan independence from China and other issues that normally would not be allowed free debate in China.

"So long as the applicants have gone through all the necessary formalities, the visas will be issued expeditiously," Mr. Chen said.

The Times for free
for first time
in 200-year history

LONDON (AFP) — Britain's oldest daily national newspaper, the Times, is to be distributed free Thursday for the first time in its 200-year history, in a promotional move by U.S. computing giant Microsoft. One and a half million copies of the Times will be distributed across the country free by Microsoft, as part of its worldwide promotional campaign for the launch of Windows 95. This exercise will cost it at least £375,000 (\$580,000), according to the Guardian newspaper. The Times, which began its life Jan. 1, 1785, as the Daily Universal Register, changing its name to the Times in 1788, sells 650,000 newspapers a day, in second place in the quality newspaper market behind the Daily Telegraph, which sells over a million. "Effectively, Microsoft is buying up all Thursday's copies of the Times as they leave the printing plant and distributing them," said the Times's Editor Peter Stothard.

Catnapper gets
three months

LONDON (AFP) — An estate agent who snatched a colleague's cat and held it for £10,000 (\$15,000) ransom because he felt he had been short-changed on a commission was sentenced to three months in jail Wednesday. Nigel Bass, 33, admitted in Old Bailey having catnapped William, a Persian blue, from Ilona Szekere's south London flat as a "foolish prank" last January after she allegedly failed to pay him his share of a property sale commission. "Blackmail in its very essence strikes at the vulnerability of the victim," judge Ann Curnow told Mr. Bass. Ms. Szekere, she told him, regarded her cats as "children" and had suffered "profound anxiety" because of his actions. "You were playing throughout on her emotions," she said. "She was a friend and colleague and you knew of her love and devotion for her cats, especially William."

British marrying
later and enjoying
it less

LONDON (AFP) — The British are marrying later and less and divorcing more, according to government figures just out. The statistics from the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys show both men and women are waiting an average of three years longer to marry for the first time than they were a decade earlier. Figures for 1993, the latest officially compiled, confirmed earlier assessments that the number of marriages in Britain fell that year to a 50-year low of 299,000, four per cent down from the previous year. That same year there were 165,000 divorces, the highest number ever recorded in Britain. The average first-marriage age was 28.2 years for men, 26.2 for women, compared with 25.7 and 23.4 respectively a decade earlier. On the average, men divorced at age 37 and women at 35 in 1993, both about a year older than in 1983, the figures showed. The average length of marriages ending in divorce was 9.8 years in 1993, 10.1 in 1983.

Singapore bids for
new Guinness
aerobics record

SINGAPORE (AFP) — More than 30,000 Singaporeans led by Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong will attempt to break the tiny republic's own world record for a mass aerobics display, it was reported here Wednesday. The great Singapore workout on Sunday, is intended to surpass the 26,017-strong attendance at an October 1993 gathering also led by Mr. Goh, which made it to the 1995 Guinness Book of World Records. The government vigorously promotes physical fitness to fight obesity in food-crazy Singapore.



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A cyclist passes a burning car in the violence-plagued city of Karachi Wednesday. At least eight vehicles have been set ablaze and six people killed on the first day of a two-day strike called by the ethnic Mohajir National Movement (Reuters photo)

Six killed in Karachi as strike paralyses town

KARACHI (AFP) — The start of a two-day strike called by Karachi's main opposition group crippled Pakistan's largest city Wednesday and led to a new surge in violence with at least six people killed, officials said.

Most of the city was deserted with schools and colleges also closed. Few private cars were on the streets.

It is deafening, there are bursts of kalashnikov which have been going on for hours, one resident reported by telephone.

the group of causing the violence by pursuing an anti-Mohajir policy and ordering a crackdown on MQM followers.

Experts return from survey of N. Korean nuclear plant sites

SEOUL (Agencies) — An international team of experts returned to Seoul Wednesday after a week in North Korea inspecting possible nuclear power plant sites, a delegate said.

The team was commissioned by a consortium set up to give the North Koreans the technology to build nuclear power plants.

The invitation to the presidential blue house for a lunch with some 20 other politicians and senior citizens was readily accepted by Kim Dae-Jung, who seeks to raise his profile after forming his own political party, the New Congress.

Tamil rebels kill two soldiers in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Tamil tiger guerrillas killed two soldiers and a civilian and lost at least one of their own men in separate incidents in northeast Sri Lanka, military officials said Wednesday.

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas attacked an army patrol in Panditrippe in the rebel-controlled northern Jaffna peninsula on Tuesday.

Sinhalese radicals oppose peace plan

administrations. Tamil rebels also have rejected the plan.

the ships unloading part of their cargo at government port at Kankesanthurai. They claim that the food is being used by the military.

Burma's Karen rebels to begin peace talks

BANGKOK (Agencies) — Leaders of Burma's Karen National Union (KNU), one of the world's oldest rebel groups, will hold preliminary ceasefire talks with the ruling military government next week, guerrilla sources said on Wednesday.

demands for greater autonomy within a federal system.

Half of northern Irish fear new IRA campaign — poll

BELFAST (R) — Almost half the people of Northern Ireland fear that the IRA will resume its guerrilla war against British rule one year after it declared a ceasefire, according to a poll published on Wednesday.

settlement to the Northern Ireland conflict.

Tuesday, showed that 65 per cent of people backed the British demand but that half of Catholics, from which Sinn Fein draws support, were against it.

Witness says Simpson seemed jovial and upbeat on night of murders

LOS ANGELES (AP) — O.J. Simpson seemed upset and depressed at times over his divorce from Nicole Brown Simpson in the weeks before her murder, but appeared relaxed and happy the night she died, a friend of the former American football star testified Tuesday.

Reichardt from testifying about what the defence originally wanted him to say: that Ms. Resnick had a terrible drug problem and stayed for a time with Mr. Simpson before the murders. The defence has suggested drug hime committed the killings, possibly to send a message to Ms. Resnick for failing to pay her drug bills.

American freed in Colombia after 11-month captivity

BOGOTA (AFP) — An American held hostage by leftist rebels was freed near Cali, Colombia and is in good health after 11 months' captivity, police said Wednesday.

The tentative date of the meeting has been set for Aug. 28-29. The chief of Pan military intelligence will lead the SLORC delegation, the Thai National Security Council official said.

Burma's warlord ready to retire

Indonesia minister seeks to douse anger over flag burning

JAKARTA (AFP) — Indonesian Defence Minister Edy Sudrajat has joined official attempts to calm domestic anger over demonstrations in Australia at which the national flag was burned, reports said Wednesday.

burning of Indonesian flags during protests in several Australian cities.

eral Suwarno Adiwijoyo also saying ties with Australia could be harmed.

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubch

Jordan Times

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Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.
Telephones: 667171/6, 607161
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
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For the sake of many

RIGHT FROM the moment the Baghdad regime plunged its forces into Kuwait in Aug. 1990, Jordan made all possible efforts to spare the Iraqi people the consequences of their leadership's blunder. In the beginning, the Jordanian leadership sought an Arab solution that would ensure Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and save the Iraqi army, people and leadership from the humiliating defeat in the battlefield and the biting and bitter sanctions that followed. At the height of the 1990 crisis many people sought to convince the Iraqi leadership that it had miscalculated. But the Iraqi regime shut its eyes and ears to all genuine advice and goodwill.

Now that the Iraqi regime has reached a dead-end, and now that the whole world, especially the Arab World, has realised how ill-intentioned that regime has become, Jordan cannot continue to ignore the facts and keep silent. The nature of that regime, its violations of its people's human rights and its amassing of all kinds of weapons of mass-destruction are frightening.

Not only did that regime miscalculate before, during and after its invasion of Kuwait, it still cannot fathom the nature of today's world order or the extent of the determination of the world community to put an end to its practices both internally and externally.

Without ignoring the intentions of the big powers, and the enemies of the nation, the handling of the Iraqi regime of the crisis has so far wrought havoc on Iraq and the Arab Nation it claims it is defending. The country itself has effectively become divided into three parts. The Iraqi people are being reduced into living in a pre-industrial, pre-civilised world. And the Arab Nation that the Iraqi leadership aspires to lead has been shattered and fragmented as a result of the invasion of Kuwait.

Jordan has no ambition in Iraq or in any part of Arab lands, be they near or far. But Jordan has a vision, as His Majesty King Hussein said last night. Jordan wants to see an Iraq and an Arab Nation that are free, an Arab people that live in dignity, and a region that enjoys peace free from all fears of repression, war and the devastation that mass-destruction weapons might bring.

It is time that the Iraqi leadership realised that what it did and is doing is neither in the interest of Iraq, nor the Iraqi people, nor the Arab Nation. Iraq has been reduced to a status unbecoming of a country of its size and wealth. It is high time that the Iraqi leadership complied with the dictates of the international community and brought Iraq back into the community of civilised nations.

The View from Academia

Not sunset, but an afternoon

WHILE SOME people look forward to retirement with a great deal of eagerness and enthusiasm, many dread it. For most people, the years of retirement are extremely anti-climactic, disappointing, traumatic and perhaps even killing (in the literal and metaphorical sense of the term). Clearly, efforts must be exerted, individually as well as collectively, to make the said years more pleasant, fruitful and worth living.

For a number of people, retirement is not a problem. The reasons here vary. Some (particularly those who retire fairly late in life) are without regrets of any sort. They enjoy having time for themselves, their friends and their family; all they seek is peace and quiet, the respect and love of those around them, and (as they say) God's "mercy" and "blessings." Others in fact plan to retire. They have in mind to pursue a different line of work, establish their own business or devote themselves to a certain activity or a personal "whim" of some sort. Other people (the "luckier" ones) have jobs or positions ready for them, jobs and positions which are as rewarding, financially and morally, as the jobs or positions they are leaving behind — if not in fact more rewarding. This category includes high-ranking officials of all kinds, influential people and people who have access to influence. Some of them are sought because they are highly competent and qualified, but many of them are not necessarily sought for this reason.

The majority, however, find themselves (in the supposedly glorious days of peace and quiet) "resting" more than they need to rest, taking it "easy" more than they need to take it easy and having more time than they know what to do with.

Add the following two factors to this pretty picture. While a few people retire at a relatively advanced age, most retire young. I know many people who have retired, from some ministries and the armed forces, in their late thirties and early forties. I do not have the statistics with me right this minute, but I am one hundred per cent sure their number is quite substantial, if not alarming. Most people retire between the ages of 45 and 60. Few people retire after 60 or 65.

Take into account here also the sad fact that most people in our society do not have serious hobbies or activities to pursue, before they retire and after. How many people (and let's make an exception here for the few fortunate

individuals and neighbourhoods) play piano, guitar, violin, bagpipe, pipe, flute or any other instrument? How many go to musical concerts? How many read books or magazines devotedly or even half-devotedly? How many are part of a reading or discussion group? How many take part in a community activity? How many hike, jog, swim or play sports? The vast majority of people in the so-called "popular" areas and small towns and villages (which constitute 80 per cent of our society) spend their day (in the exciting years of retirement) drinking tea and coffee or smoking, on the sidewalk, in the veranda or in the living room in front of the television.

Retirement is a big problem for many people. First of all, it is a psychological trauma for the person himself. How does it feel to be useless and unneeded, professionally that is? How does it feel to be unproductive? Unappreciated? Unappreciative of one's self? The negative thoughts and feelings (and one obviously has all the time in the world to think and feel; what else can one do?) can be extremely damaging to an aging person.

Secondly, it is also often a psychological trauma for the rest of the family. Family members do not particularly like to see their father (and in some cases the mother or elder brother or grandfather) suffering before their eyes. But the retired parent may start, and this is what often happens, to interfere with the lives of the family members more than he/she should, taking out his/her frustrations on them and picking fights with them. (Of course there are exceptions). The well-being of many families and the fate of many marriages are greatly threatened as a result of retirement.

One can think of many solutions to the problem, or at least suggestions and ways to alleviate the trauma. Ideally, of course, people ought to have the opportunity to keep their jobs for longer periods, especially those who are asked to retire early. But knowing the unemployment situation we are going through (those who retire often make room for younger people without work) and knowing the various rules and systems we have, it seems silly to suggest the prolonging of service. If early retirement seems to be inevitable then, the following suggestions may help, especially for those who are unable to find work.

The first thing we ought to do is to prepare people for retirement (psychologically and mentally) and to help them cope with it once it comes. A great many people who retire,

do not often know what they are getting into. Generally, our society is not good at facing certain problems, or even recognising them. Certain problems will be staring us in the face and we will not even have the sense (sophistication? courage?) to confront them. We, individuals and institutions alike, bury our heads in the sand and pretend everything is O.K. with the world. We, individuals and institutions, should recognise that retirement is a problem and then counsel people on how to deal with it. How is one to conduct one's self in one's family? How can one stop being selfish and pathetic? How can one develop certain good habits, activities, interests? How to cope with time? People need advice and counselling. For this purpose, we need to create a certain forum (within our own institutions or independent of them) whose aim is to deal with retirement as a problem and to make advice and information available to those who plan to retire or those who already have. And since people would be too shy or intimidated to approach the forum, the forum must find ways of approaching them.

We should make use of the concept of volunteer work, much more so than we are doing. Many retired individuals make perfect candidates for voluntary work. For one thing, many of them have valuable experience which they are more than eager to contribute. For another, many of them can be trained to do things they do not know much about. Furthermore, many of them will be content with a symbolic salary or even work for free.

Many retired persons can work on advisory committees or be part of a group entrusted with a certain task. I heard on American television the other day an announcement by a private firm seeking the expertise of retired executives in advising some people on setting up small businesses. Many of our institutions, public and private, could do something similar. We could seek the help of retired civil servants, teachers, military officers, etc. We may not be able to get the response we want at the beginning, for the concept of voluntary work has not yet sunk in most of our minds, but as time goes by, and with enthusiasm and devotion to the idea, we can make it work.

I believe that there is life in retirement, but people need to be helped to see it, cope with its challenges and learn to appreciate it. Retirement is not sunset (as our society seems to view it); it is a long summer afternoon.

The era of Japan Inc is over

A 50-year quest to excel has succeeded — too well. Peter Tasker surveys a disconcerting future

TOKYO — The 50th anniversary of the end of the World War II finds the Japanese in an unusually troubled and self-questioning mood. For 1995 has truly been an *annus horribilis*. In all sorts of ways, the myths that have sustained Japan through the post-war decades have been coming apart at the seams.

It started on the morning of Jan. 17 when in a few shuddering seconds the centre of Kobe was turned into a rubble-strewn wasteland. The human cost — 5,000 dead and 40,000 homeless — right in the heart of one of the world's richest cities — was traumatic enough. The shock was compounded by what was revealed about the reliability of the authorities. All the elaborate disaster drills and fail-safe procedures were shown to be useless. Residents were left to dig the dead and wounded out of the debris unaided; fires blazed unheeded due to the fire brigade's inability to obtain any water.

An even more shocking event followed — the nerve-gas attack on the Tokyo underground. The subsequent revelation about the schemes of cult-leader Shoko Asahara, a figure who could have stepped out of the pages of the weirdest "manga" comic-book, knocked giant holes in the myth of the safe, well-governed society. It is possible that the police really had no idea what was happening? If not, they were incompetent. If they did, they were hugely irresponsible in allowing it to continue.

Economic policymakers have fared no better. A series of grave misjudgements has brought the most dynamic economy of the post-war era to the closest condition to a debt deflation that the world has seen for 60 years. Zero growth, collapsing asset markets, a banking system rotten with debt — the obvious problems are unwelcome enough. The more disturbing feature has been the government's inability to master a situation which, given Japan's capital resources, should be by no means beyond solution.

Again, the weakness of a system based not on rules but on the exercise of bureaucratic discretion has been made manifest.

The protracted economic slump is having significant side-effects. Intense pressure to cut costs in forcing changes in Japan's post-war corporate culture. When the growth machine stops, lifetime employment and seniority pay become unaffordable. When the stock market collapses, the practice of companies "cross-holding" each other's shares becomes a recipe for

disaster. When large chunks of manufacturing industry move off-shore — a process which has only just begun — the keiretsu network of supplier and sub-contractors has to be cut away at some point.

All this will have far-reaching social implications. Through the lifetime-employment system workers have allowed themselves to be exploited in terms of working conditions in return for long-term security. Similarly, small companies have allowed themselves to be dominated by large companies in return for stable business relations. Sacrifice in return for risk-sharing — that is the grand bargain at the heart of Japanese-style capitalism and the impressive social cohesion it has fostered. As the pre-war record shows, there is nothing culturally determined about Japanese social stability.

The current slide down the GNP growth table is profoundly disorienting for a nation that has defined itself almost exclusively in terms of economic success. The path Japan has taken over the past 50 years has been mapped out by Japan's greatest post-war prime minister, Shigeru Yoshida. According to the "Yoshida doctrine," Japan could return to the first rank of nations only by concentrating all its efforts on economic development. It would provide forward bases that would allow the U.S. military to dominate the Pacific. In return, it would receive free protection and open markets. At home politics would be dominated by the one-party rule of the Liberal Democrat Party, which was set up in 1955 with the help of CIA funding.

Real power, however, would remain in the hands of the bureaucracy. Exports would be prioritised, consumption repressed and foreign competition kept out of strategic sectors until it was too late to make a difference. Industry would be organised hierarchically, and company unions encouraged in the place of trade unions.

It worked like a dream. Starting with the stimulus of Korean War demand, the Japanese economy took off on a super-charged reconstruction boom. Inflation and labour militancy — both serious problems in

the immediate post-war years — were ruthlessly quelled, and the left-wing opposition marginalised. Self-Defence Forces were set up, in apparent defiance of the Peace Constitution, but America's nuclear umbrella provided all the protection anyone needed.

The Tokyo Olympics in 1964 marked Japan's return to international respectability. In the same year Japan sloughed off the official classification of "developing nation" and was accepted into the OECD. Since then the factories have poured out an ever more sophisticated range of goods, incomes have soared and Japan's great companies have become leading players in the global economy.

So the psychological effect of the current slump runs deep. Over the years, Japan has grown accustomed to its industrial strategies being criticised, feared, admired and imitated. In the hubristic eighties, Japanese intellectuals even talked of a "reverse Marshall Plan" through which Japan would bail out that economic basket-case the United States.

Indeed, from the other side of the Pacific, the situation looked threatening. Japanese companies were dominating key hi-tech industries and snapping up trophy assets such as Columbia Pictures and the Rockefeller Centre. An influential group of Washington insiders was suggesting that American policy should be geared towards the "containment" of Japanese industrial power — a deliberate echo of Dulles-era cold war rhetoric.

Unlike the original "evil empire," the industrial version is still alive and kicking. But containment is no longer necessary. The trophy assets are being sold off at knock-down prices and Japanese companies are struggling to keep up in new growth areas such as multimedia and PC networking. While nobody was looking, the Japanese have done an excellent job of containing themselves.

The Americans, however, are unrelenting. Trade frictions appear to be endless and both liberal Democrats and right-wing isolationists have been questioning the value of the U.S.-

Japan Security Treaty, the bulwark of Japan's entire post-war foreign policy. Popular sentiment is reflected in the success of Japan-bashing best-sellers such as Michael Crichton's *Rising Sun* and Tom Clancy's *Debt of Honour*.

The eruption of bitterness about Japan's actions half a century ago can be seen in much the same terms. Simply put, the West no longer needs Japan as an ally in the fight against Communism. Conflicts, whether about closed markets or the treatment of POWs and "comfort women," can be brought out into the open.

From the Japanese point of view, the natural response would seem to be a shift away from reliance on the West to an Asia-oriented strategy. Indeed, since the Meiji Restoration in 1873, Japanese intellectuals have veered between pro-Western and pan-Asian yearnings. The last swing to pan-Asianism supplied the ideological impetus to the Pacific War. Another such swing could have unfavourable consequences for all concerned. For this time there is competition within Asia itself. Another superpower already exists, nuclear-armed, increasingly powerful in economic terms, and as unpredictable and touchily nationalistic as Japan was on its own emergence on to the world stage. In the 21st century pan-Asianism will be a high-risk strategy.

Japan's long march — which began not with Yoshida but with the Meiji Restoration itself — reached its goal in the eighties. In wealth and technology, Japan had finally caught up with the leading countries of the West. The first attempt ended in disaster 50 years ago. The second achieved everything that Yoshida could have hoped for. Yet in some ways his vision may have been too successful for Japan's own good. The Japan Inc system became too powerful, too rigid. In retrospect, the elimination of politics as a creative force in society now looks like a fatal flaw. The premises on which the system was built — American goodwill, an immature, fast-growing economy, bureaucratic wisdom — are crumbling away, but Japan's natural powers of adaptation seem to have atrophied. No doubt time will restore them, but this phase of political and psychological restructuring has many more years to run.

The writer is an analyst and author. His novel, *Silent Thunder*, is published by Orion. The above article is reprinted from *The Independent*.

Algeria set for showdown

PARIS (R) — Algeria's army-backed government and its Muslim fundamentalist foes are set for a military and political showdown after the authorities announced Nov. 16 as the date for controversial presidential elections.

There has already been an upsurge of violence in the North African country in recent weeks after the government pressed ahead with plans to hold the polls following the failure of negotiations with fundamentalist leaders earlier this year.

An estimated 40,000 people have been killed in more than three years of civil strife which started after the government in January 1992 cancelled elections for the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), the main Muslim militant group, was poised to win.

But many fear the worst is yet to come.

"One would be out of his mind not to expect more killings in the months ahead," an Algiers-based diplomat said.

"It will be difficult to mobilise people and politicians around the poll drive and at the same time hold talks. The dialogue is the first casualty of the election," he said.

Political analysts in Algiers say the Muslim rebels are already taking part in a tug-of-war over the polls by stepping up their attacks to deter people from going to cast ballots.

"As the presidential election nears, the terrorist groups are increasing attacks, especially through over-use of bombings," the most influential newspaper, *El Watan*, commented.

A spokesman for President Lamine Zeroual announced on Friday that presidential elections would be held on Nov. 16 and the United Nations, the Arab League and the Organisation of African Unity had been asked to oversee the polls.

But FIS vowed to stop the vote and said the authorities were trying to win legitimacy by force.

"The Islamic Salvation Front refuses point blank these elections as they are proposed by the putschists," the outlawed group said in a statement signed by one of its spokesmen, Anwar Haddam, from his exile in Washington.

Mr. Haddam told the Times of London in an interview published Saturday that the rebels would not allow the polls to go ahead. "The freedom fighters

will not allow an election," he said.

Only hours before the elections date was announced, two car bombs exploded near a heavily guarded residential compound for senior officials outside Algiers, killing a girl.

More than 30 people had died in similar bomb attacks since July in and around Algiers, according to newspaper reports.

In his statement, Mr. Haddam warned "against any attempt to internationalise the Algerian crisis and against any form of foreign meddling in internal Algerian affairs."

He said the authorities "have proposed to hold presidential elections only with the aim of winning internal legitimacy which will enable them to get more financial and military support from abroad to pursue terrorising the people and blocking its liberation and prosperity."

Mr. Zeroual has said the elections provide a chance for peace but could open an era of democracy, developing and social justice.

The country's main Arabic-language paper *Al-Khabar* wrote that the players in the civil strife "will all take part in the elections in their own ways. The political parties display their views to Zeroual, the government prepares conferences over the polls while armed groups sign the wave of killing."

Some diplomats said they doubted an elected president would bring about the change expected by Algerians, and commentators were sceptical about the government's ability to ensure security for voters in time for the poll.

"Local official reports came once again to remind those who try to forget the Algerian daily life. These reports show that several problems still remain in some regions like security, transport and communications means," the daily *Liberte* said.

Analysts and diplomats said the government had failed so far to widen support for the election. Only leaders of small groups and political figures close to the military had vowed support.

Algeria's other main opposition groups, including the former ruling National Liberation Front and the Socialist Forces Front, have said they oppose the polls and urged the authorities to resume a dialogue with FIS.

Medi

By Rima Cathaw

AMMAN — The Jordanian Arab Times, a daily newspaper published in Amman, has been closed down by the Jordanian government. The newspaper was founded in 1975 and was one of the few independent Arab newspapers in the region. It was accused of publishing false information and of being a tool of foreign influence. The government has ordered the closure of the newspaper and the arrest of its staff.

The Jordanian government has been accused of human rights abuses and of suppressing dissent. The closure of the Jordanian Arab Times is seen as a further step in the government's efforts to control the media and to suppress any criticism of its policies. The newspaper's closure has been widely condemned by human rights organisations and by the international community.

The Jordanian government has also been accused of using force against its own people. There have been reports of torture and other human rights abuses in Jordan. The government has denied these allegations and has claimed that it is committed to the rule of law and to the protection of human rights.

The Jordanian government has been accused of being a puppet of the United States. It is claimed that the United States provides the Jordanian government with financial and military support in return for its loyalty. This accusation has been widely refuted by the United States government, which has claimed that its relationship with Jordan is based on mutual respect and shared values.

The Jordanian government has been accused of being a puppet of the Arab League. It is claimed that the Arab League provides the Jordanian government with financial and political support in return for its loyalty. This accusation has been widely refuted by the Arab League, which has claimed that its relationship with Jordan is based on mutual respect and shared values.

Among those interviewed in the series are: Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, Head of the Palestinian Human Rights Commission, Maryem Bent Ahmed, Mauritania's Minister for Women, Hosn Shah, Egyptian writer and defender of women's rights, Mona Zoo Al Faqar, Egyptian lawyer and a leading campaigner, Tujan Faisal, Jordan's only women Member of Parliament, Princess Fatema Al-Zahraa, Head of the Women's Union in Morocco, Fayza Al Kafi, Head of the Women's Union in Tunisia, Dr. Aysha Al Sayyar, the only deputy minister in the United Arab Emirates, Dr. Zakia Mal-Allah, the first Qatari woman to gain a PhD., and Dr. Moza Al Makli, social counsellor at Qatar University.

New Windows open wide

By Jean-Claude Elias

WINDOWS 95, the new operating system (OS) for personal computers (PCs) by Microsoft is here at last. Promised since last year, the product took some extra time to fine tune. With its official commercial launch this August, Windows 95 has captured the cover of nearly every computer magazine on earth, including 'Hasoob', Jordan Computer Society's monthly publication, as well as some prime space in many non-specialised dailies from Boston to Hong Kong.

The system is expected to have a remarkable impact on the world of personal computing. Analysts estimate that it will sell at least 30 million copies by the end of this year, tightening Microsoft's iron grip on software market.

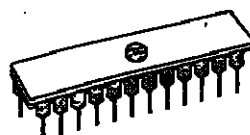
While PC users have humbly accepted the constant changes imposed on them by software developers, forcing them to learn new programmes and new versions of the same programmes all the time, a new OS cannot be considered as a regular or a small change. Moving from Excel 4.0 to Excel 5.0 is one thing, but moving from Windows 3.1 to Windows 95 is another. A new OS is like a revolution.

The OS is the set of rules and commands that let you "drive" your computer. Moving, naming, renaming, copying, deleting, locating, grouping, protecting, organising your data and files, all are OS-related operations — hence its vital importance. Knowing your OS well is knowing how to use your computer. It affects any programme you may use. A new OS means you have to enter a new world.

Intended to be the successor of the already very popular Windows 3.1, Windows 95 therefore is not entirely a new system. In other words, one doesn't have to re-learn everything. Those familiar with the current version should not find it too difficult to adapt. Still, they won't be able to do it overnight. In their July issue "PC Magazine" writes: "Users of Windows 3.1 will need a few weeks to feel really comfortable with Windows 95."

Microsoft have introduced many new features in their new OS. They have also brought solutions to a few weaknesses of the old one, satisfying the request of millions of users. The screens (the way menus appear on the monitor or display) have been re-

chip talk



designed — a double-edged knife for those who have become familiar with the old ones. Some major menus have been changed, for the better, technically speaking.

The list of improvements of Windows 95 over Windows 3.1 would be too long to detail here (true 32-bit software, multi-tasking, limitless string file names, etc.).

There is little doubt however that they are essential to allow users make the most of the Pentium generation of microprocessors. They have also been waiting for these improvements for several years now.

Practically speaking, we do not expect everybody to jump on the bandwagon in 1995. Many of Windows lovers will first adopt an attitude of "weighted reservation" and observation. I have been told that Windows 95 would require 16 MB of memory to operate and that 32 MB are recommended. This is obviously an extra expenditure that private PC owners can do without.

Ensuring compatibility with existing non-Microsoft Windows programmes (Harvard Graphics, AutoCad, and so on) will constitute a crucial part of the testing. Arabisation is another major point to keep in mind: the vast majority of users in Arab countries need a bilingual Windows. When Microsoft release a new system, they usually start with the English-only version and then develop the multi-lingual ones a few months later. Users in Jordan will probably wait for the Arabic-English OS.

It seems reasonable to foresee that by the end of 1996 or early 1997 latest, we will all be using Windows 95, a system that will usher us into the twenty first century.

More culture than a yoghurt

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

Two groups of friends bump into each other at a cafe. They have not seen each other for quite a long time. Presumably they have quite a lot to talk about.

— Hey you guys, will you join us for a cup of tea?
— Yes sure, we'd love to, as long as its our treat.
— So it's tea all round, is it?
— I will take a coffee, thanks.
— As ever, always the odd one out.
— So what has everyone been up to lately? It has been quite a while since we've seen one another.

— Well... I bought a fancy new expensive car a couple of weeks ago and I have spent a lot of time adding to it all sorts of gadgets and accessories. You guys should have seen how it skidded across the streets. Anyway, I crashed it yesterday.

— Oh my God! Look at those two girls over there... Sorry for interrupting. What about you, Samuel? What have you been up to?

— Quite a lot, I guess. I have, for one, been taking private lessons in Spanish and Chinese. I imagine that they would be quite useful when I leave for East Asia and South America next year.

— Why on earth would you want to go there? My family always goes to Boston during the holidays. That is the place that you should be going to. Besides, it is just like home, there are always a lot of people who would be more than ready to join you in a game of cards.

— Sorry guys, did anybody mention a game of cards?

— Now you're talking. Waiter, could we have a deck of cards, please?

— Oh come on, you guys, for surely a bit trekking

in a place like Tibet can offer you both adventure and spiritual healing. And there is always the chance to explore different cultures and ways of living, to make new friends and...

— Oh man! Look at that girl with the curly red hair. Pass me a cigarette will you, and the car keys as well.

— Come on people, can't you see what cards, cigarette and cars have done to you? I think that it is about time you started doing something more useful and practical with the free time that you have on your hands. There is so much more to life than any of you could imagine.

— Don't you think that we know that already. Because it's summer, we also go to a couple of clubs where we hang around the swimming pools.

— You mean like hanging from palm trees with your tongue drooping out of your mouths.

— Hey! I don't care whether all this is true or not, but it was really uncalled for.

— You are right. But you guys need to pay more attention to everything that is happening around you. A lot of people around us have gone totally out of control to the extent that stop signs are being placed on some roads where they are not required, even by law. We seem to need constant reminding of our duties as citizens towards others who share our environment with us. All this cannot be one man's struggle. Besides, we still have a great deal to accomplish. You do know that pages are being torn out of several cultural magazines that enter the country, and...

— Let's order something to eat.
— I'll have a strawberry yoghurt.
— I'll have that, too.
— Yoghurts all round.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

FANTASTIC FACTS

★ The natives of Bhutan write their prayers on flags placed on masts as they believe that the winds take with them these prayers to the heavenly gods.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Scientists could find a "spider" jumping like a frog on Mount Everest (Himalaya).

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Some species of sea sheep shed real tears when they are in distress or suffering from pain.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ An American citizen can carve shapes and pictures on a man's hair.

★ Sri Lankans annually celebrate the finding of a holy tooth from Buddha.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— I must write a letter to my friend.

Yajib an aktob rissalatan ela sadeeqi.

— This letter is urgent and important.

Hathehir-rissala aajila wa hamma.

— Dear uncle/aunt/madam/professor.

Ummi/ummati/sayyadati/ustathee al-aziz/aziza.

— My dear father/mother/wife.

Abi/ummi/zawjati al-aziz/aziza.

— Yours sincerely/faithfully.

Al mukhliss/al-mukhlissa.

— Yours affectionately.

Al-mohibb/al-mohibba.

— Your loving son/daughter.

Ibnokul habib/Ibnatokul habiba.

— With hope and respect I write this letter to you.

Ma'a ihtirami wa ashami aktob hathehir-rissala elayka.

— Your letter gave me great pleasure.

Laqad sarra'ni rissalatoka kathiran.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. How do worms benefit the soil?
2. Where do turtles hatch their eggs?
3. What purposes do the antennae of insects serve?
4. Why do some flowers give out perfume at night only?
5. What is the name of the only English poisonous snake?
6. How many sides do the cells of a honeycomb have?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PUZZLES

(A) JAMES & JOHN

James is three times as old as John. Eight years ago he was five times as old, and in sixteen years he will be twice as old. How old will he be when John is three times his (John's) present age?



(B) NAME THE FLOWERS

Use the initial letters of the picture to name the four flowers.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday,
Aug. 24

Starring: Charles Dum-
ing & Byron Allen

1:30 Iris-The Happy Pro-
fessor

12:00 Shogun — Part
Nine

1:40 Noddy

12:30 Perfect Strangers

2:00 Fireman Sam

Friday,
Aug. 25

2:15 My Secret Identity

1:00 Read-A-All Deed-
A-All

2:30 N.B.A.

1:15 Beethoven

3:00 Dead Men's Tales

1:30 Why I didn't Think
Of That

3:30 Take Your Pick

2:00 White Fang

4:00 I Witness Video

2:30 Feature Film

5:00 Children's prog-
ramme
Rahan

4:00 The Crystal Maze

5:30 Varieties And Game
Show

5:00 Children Program-
me
Rahan

7:00 Le Journal

5:30 Telefilm
La Maison Des Autres
2/2

7:15 Magazine — Por-
trait D'Alain Cavalier

7:00 Le Journal

7:30 News Headlines

7:15 Magazine — E=M6

7:35 National Geog-
raphic

7:30 News Headlines

8:30 The Album Show

7:35 African Skies

9:15 Murder She Wrote

8:00 Coach

10:00 News In English

7:00 Le Journal

10:25 Movie — In The
Deep Woods

7:15 Magazine — Faut
Pas Rever

8:30 Jordan Today

7:30 News Headlines

9:15 Dangerfield

7:35 First Flights

10:00 News In English

8:00 Major Dad

10:25 Movie — Hush Lit-
tle Baby

8:30 The Bold And The
Beautiful

Starring: Diane Ladd &
Ilysa Woloshyn

9:15 Dr. Quinn-Medicine
Woman

11:50 Out On A Limb

10:00 News In English

12:30 The Powers That
Be

10:25 Movie — Mother
Of The Bride

Saturday,
Aug. 26

Starring: Rule
McLanhan & Kristy
McNichol

2:00 Back To The Future

11:50 Noble House (Best
Seller)
Part II.

2:50 Harry And The
Hendersons

10:00 News In English

3:00 Road To Avonlea

10:25 Counterstrike

3:45 Only In Hollywood

11:30 Keeping appear-
ances

4:00 Families

12:30 The Sleeping Beau-
ty

5:00 Children's Prog-
ramme
Rahan

2:00 The Flintstones

5:30 Documentary —
Palettes

2:30 Joshua Jones

6:00 Drama Series
Operation Open 1 Et 2

2:45 The Mighty Jungle

7:00 Le Journal

3:00 Pugwall's Summer

7:15 Magazine — Faut
Pas Rever

3:30 Sky Trackers

7:30 News Headlines

4:00 Families

7:35 African Skies

5:00 Children's Prog-
ramme

8:00 Coach

2:00 The Animals Of
Farthing Wood

2:30 Hey Dad!

ramme
Rahan

3:00 Survival

2:30 M.A.N.T.I.S.

2:30 Super Champs

5:30 Magazine/Debat
La Marche Du Siecle

4:00 Families

3:00 The Road To Avon-
lea

3:00 Tomorrow's World

7:00 Le Journal

5:00 Children Program-
me
Rahan

4:00 Families

4:00 Families

7:15 Magazine
Ushuaia: Le Magazine
De L'Extreme

5:30 Docu-Drama
Le Monde Du Science

5:00 Children Program-
me — Rahan

5:00 Children Program-
me — Rahan

7:30 News Headlines

7:00 Le Journal

5:30 Magazine — Mon-
tagne

5:30 Detective Telefilm
Les Cinq Dernieres Mi-
nutes

7:35 An End To Silence

7:15 French Varieties

5:50 Varieties — Tarata-
ta

7:00 Le Journal

8:00 Nurses

7:30 News Headlines

7:00 Le Journal

7:15 Magazine — Fant
Pas Rever

8:30 The Bold And The
Beautiful

7:35 Camp Wilder

7:15 Magazine — Fant
Pas Rever

7:15 Magazine
Ushuaia, Le Magazine
De L'extreme

9:10 Heart Beat

8:00 McHale's Navy

7:30 News Headlines

7:30 News Headlines

9:30 Diving In The Red
Sea

8:30 The Bold And The
Beautiful

7:35 Questions Of Choice

7:35 An End To Silence

10:00 News In English

9:15 Harts Of The West

8:00 Piglet Files

7:35 An End To Silence

10:25 Counterstrike

10:00 News In English

8:30 The Bold And The
Beautiful

8:00 Anything For A
Laugh

11:30 Keeping appear-
ances

10:25 The Ruth Rendell's
Mysteries —

9:15 True Blue

8:30 The Bold And The
Beautiful

12:30 The Sleeping Beau-
ty

11:30 Movie — Those
She Left Behind

10:00 News In English

8:30 The Bold And The
Beautiful

Monday,
Aug. 28

Starring: Gary Cole &
Joanna Kerens

11:30 New York Under-
cover

9:15 Heart Of Healing

Heavenly scent: Perfumes waft across the ages

By Paul Majendie
Reuter

BRIGHTON, England — Press a button and out wafts the cologne that French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte once wore in battle. Press another and you are transported back six centuries to the perfume of Hungary's Queen Elizabeth, said to be so seductive that it enticed the King of Poland to propose marriage.

For this is heavenly scent, a fascinating glimpse into the history, culture and romance of perfume over the last 2,500 years. France, where more than half the world's most famous perfumes are made, put together this nasal extravaganza that is now touring the globe offering aromatic surprises.

The latest stop is the elegant southern English seaside resort of Brighton where the museum has "odoramas" to sniff along

with designer crystal bottles which are, in Shakespeare's words, like "a liquid prisoner pent in walls of glass."

The romance of perfume has not faded over the ages. Cleopatra never went on a voyage unless her sails were coated with precious oils "so perfumed that the winds were lovesick with them."

Emperor Nero loved roses to excess. He once arranged for a waterfall of petals which smothered one of his guests and killed him.

The Prophet Mohammad said: "Three things are dear to me on Earth — women, perfume and, for comfort, prayer."

The ancient Egyptians used fragrant woods and essences to please the gods. They also helped to offset the smell of burning flesh in religious sacrifices.

Christian crusaders brought back "love in a mist" from the Middle

East to Europe and the English tudors crushed its seeds and dusted the powder into their hair to drive out lice.

Strait-laced Victorians were so fearful of the sexual powers of scent that they would not let it touch their skin. Instead, they dabbed it on handkerchiefs and slippers.

The exhibition gives an intriguing glimpse into the world of noses, the name given to the perfumers who have created the world's most famous scents.

They are like musicians gradually building a melody into a symphony.

They even talk about top, middle and base notes when discussing how long a fragrance lingers in the memory.

Perfumes, to their creators, have vigorous personalities and a tenacious aura.

The great perfumes that have enchanted women throughout the ages have

virtually all been fashioned by men.

From Ernest Beauxy creating Chanel No. 5 to William Poucher's Yardley English Lavender, these are the true artists in a fiercely competitive "war of the noses."

Exotic fragrances are gathered from the four corners of the Earth — petitgrain oils from Paraguay, cinnamon from Sri Lanka, cloves from Madagascar.

Exotica abound. Ambergris, a whale excretion, was popular with the great lover Casanova who drank it in his hot chocolate as an aphrodisiac.

The pungent petals of jasmine must be picked before sunrise.

Fifty million rose petals are needed to produce one kilo of rose oil. Olfactory opulence is everything.

The manufacturing process is wrapped in ornate language as the magic ingredients go through enflourage, maceration dry

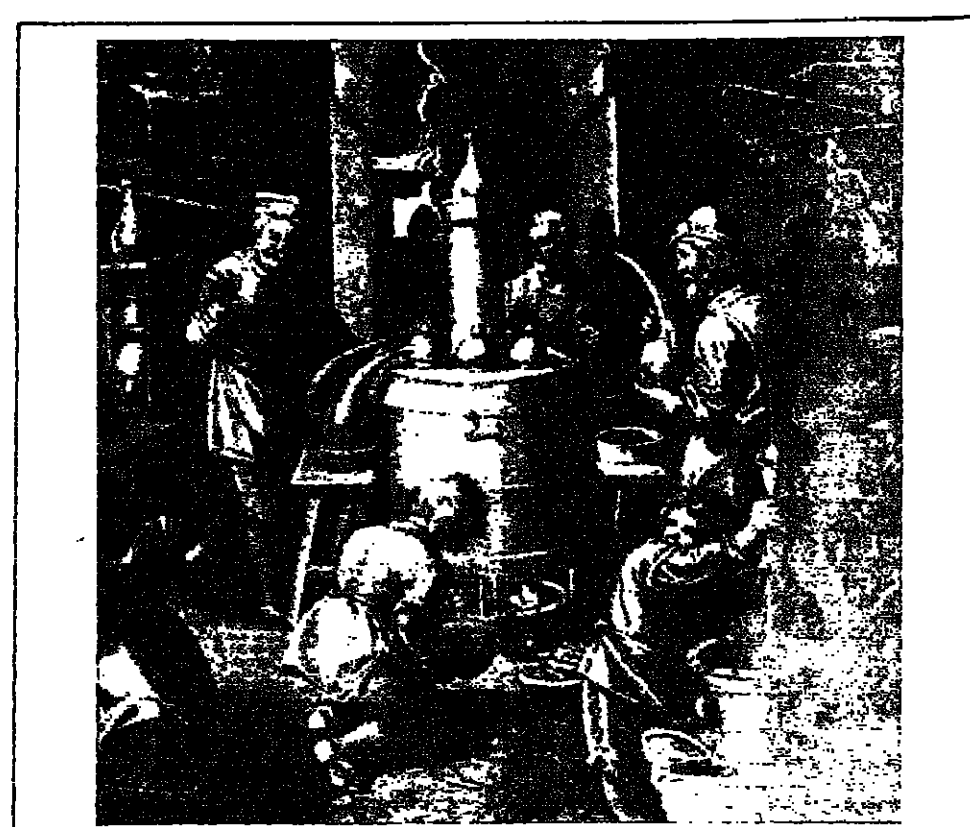
steam distillation and citrus extraction.

Design and advertising are vital to the success of a perfume, so often linked to the major fashion houses.

A lalique perfume bottle sold at a London auction for £43,000 (\$69,000).

Salvador Dali designed highly prized bottles for schiaparelli, saying "smell is unquestionably the sense which best expresses immortality." The Bottle for "Femme" by Rochas was shaped in the hips of voluptuous actress Mae West.

Imagine a world without scents. It would be a much sadder and poorer place. That is why the Russian space programme paid the perfume industry perhaps its greatest compliment. Soviet astronauts were sent into space with phials of essential oils to remind them of Earth and overcome the emotional deprivation of scentless space.



An age-old process for dry steam distillation of essential oils

A thousand years of Islamic art

By Hanns Neuerbourg
The Associated Press

GENEVA — More than 1,000 years of Islamic art are covered in a spectacular panorama compiled by two major shows seen this summer in Switzerland.

A vast selection of objects have been on view, ranging from fragments of a Koran written less than a century after the death of the Prophet Mohammad to armour that may have been used in the 1529 Turkish siege of Vienna to an enchanting pre-World War I calligraphic composition. Splendid samples of calligraphy, the art of beautiful writing, dominate the shows at Lugano and Geneva. The art soared to heights under Islam because of the weight the Koran gave to any written text. The prohibition to depict human figures in religious manuscripts also made artists concentrate on the perfection of writing.

The exhibition at Lugano's Villa Favorita, home of priceless European art treasures of the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection until their move to Madrid three years ago, features more than 300 masterpieces from the St. Petersburg institute for Oriental Studies.

Shown for the first time outside Russia, they primarily include manuscripts and brilliantly coloured miniatures produced for princely palaces between Baghdad and Delhi. Outstanding among them is a magnificent "Murakka," an album comprising decorative court scenes painted by Persian miniaturists between the 16th and early 18th century.

Another top attraction at Lugano is a richly illustrated 13th-century copy of the "Maqamat," telling the amusing stories of Abu Zaid, an Arab adventurer. Faces of many figures in the book have been erased or otherwise made unrecognisable — evidence of early Islamic fundamentalism. From Lugano, where it closed Aug. 12, the exhibition moved to New York where it is scheduled to open sometime in fall at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Art under the suftans of the Ottoman empire, which at its peak stretched from North Africa to the Caucasus and from Yemen to Austria, is the theme of the exhibition at Geneva's Greek-columned Musee Rath. It marks the first major pub-

lic presentation of choice items from the collection of Nasser David Khalili, the Iranian-born American tycoon who is based in London.

The emphasis, too, is on calligraphy which catalogue editor Uliam Raby said was "developed by the Arabs, was refined in Iran and Iraq but reached its apogee in Istanbul."

Visitors also can admire an impressive array of other highly decorative objects reflecting life in peace and war under the sultans who ruled over a multinational empire that lasted 600 years. Richly engraved head harnesses for war horses and mail shirts which may have protected the troops of Suleiman the Magnificent in advancing to the walls of Vienna in 1529 tell of the military might of the sultans who relied on the world's first standing army, the Janizaries.

Compasses, astrolabes (early sextants) and a 17th-century atlas with sea charts and views of Venice, Cairo, Genoa and other cities recall the important role of the Ottoman navy which once dominated much of the Mediterranean.

A rather plain-looking set of pouring vessels inscribed in Arab "a gift for

his excellency Abraham Lincoln" draws interest as a curio rather than for its artistic value.

Carpets, textiles and decorative metalwork complete the exhibits which make up merely a small fragment of the about 20,000 objects in the collection. It was assembled by Mr. Khalili, descendant of a wealthy Jewish family, after he left Iran in 1967 at age 22 to study at the University of London.

Besides his widespread business engagements he is among the authors of a 26-volume survey of Islamic art based on his collection, believed to rank among the biggest of its kind in the world.

At the opening of the Geneva show, which impressed him as "magically arranged," Mr. Khalili was asked how he managed to build up such a hoard of art in such a relatively short time. "It was a matter of being at the right place at the right time," he answered with a smile.

The Geneva show runs until Sept. 24. Further exhibitions from the Khalili collection are planned in cities throughout the world but sites and dates have not yet been announced.

In conservative Gulf, sexes meet over mobile phones

By Habib Trabelsi
Agence France Presse

DUBAI — Four young Emirati men, dressed in their traditional white robes, sat down at the Cafe Renouir in a Dubai shopping mall hoping to pick up women.

But there's a twist. Instead of chatting to women at other tables, they take their mobile phones and start dialing. A woman who spurns them over the phone can't land them in jail as easily as one who makes a scene at the cafe.

"I make about 20 calls a day but I'm almost always rejected," said Maher, a government employee who spends less time in the office than on the road where he uses his mobile phone to try to pick up women.

Maher and his three friends are part of a growing number of young people in conservative Gulf Arab countries who are using the phone to meet the opposite sex. But the authorities are fighting back.

In Kuwait, the telephone company has cut off 4,288 subscribers since

the beginning of the year after they were accused of "using their mobile phones for immoral conversations," the Kuwaiti press said.

It added that 1,698 of them would be prosecuted.

Sadlan, a member of the committee of ulemas in Riyadh.

"Under Islamic law those who act indecently toward women are punished by flogging, a year in prison and a fine," Sheikh Saleh said in an

interview with the Saudi weekly Al-Muslimun.

But as authorities clamp down, the business is growing. In the United Arab Emirates, 106,677 people have mobile phones and the state-run telecommunications firm Etisalat plans to provide 80,000 new lines, according to a company official.

Saudi Arabia meanwhile plans to add 300,000 new subscribers to its list of 200,000.

"You can be reached anywhere by mobile phone," one Etisalat advertising slogan declares. "Your car can become your office," another calls out.

Mobile phones also have snob appeal. "Without a mobile phone, you're nothing..."

High school teachers said several of their students show off by putting their mobile phone sets on their desks.

Mobile phones are now starting to yield to a new craze for scanners, which allow the user to eavesdrop on erotic and other private telephone conversations.

In Kuwait, the scanner started to appear widely after the emirate was liberated from Iraqi occupation in February 1991.

"Some scanner fanatics are using intimate conversations that have recorded onto cassettes to blackmail husbands or wives," the Sharq Al-Awsat newspaper said.

Rock stars find good vibes in battered Beirut

By Hitham Haddadin
Reuter

BEIRUT — International pop stars are pouring into Beirut, a "good vibes" city now but unthinkable as a concert venue when it was the world's kidnap capital and a haven for trigger-happy militiamen a few years ago.

A dozen chart-topping acts have played since May, nine of them in two concerts in the past two weekends.

And in a sign that the 1975-90 civil war is slipping into memory, a superstar who witnessed the horrors first-hand will give show number 13.

Greek singer Demis Roussos, one of the passengers hijacked to the Lebanese capital on a TWA flight by militant Muslims in 1985, will perform between August 25 and 27 in three concerts, including one in the war-damaged Beirut city centre.

"Beirut will be one of the biggest music cities. It will be happenin'," Michelle Everett, a high-heeled dancer with the British pop group Haddaway, told Reuters after a high-decibel set by the group in mountains above Beirut earlier in August.

"You get a very good vibe in Beirut, the crowd is brilliant. You don't get that in many places," the 24-year-old blonde added before taking to the stage again during sets by rock band Alphaville and British singers Jimmy Somerville and Marc Almond.

"I dedicate this song to Beirut. It's called 'Peace On Earth'. Alphaville's German lead singer Marion Gold blared to the Generation X-ers who turned out in thousands at the August 5 'summer-storm' concert.

Tickets sold like hotcakes for a second show by five other hit performers or bands — Rednex, Culture Beat, Sonia, Yakidu and Dr. Alban — who also performed back-to-back for nearly seven hours the following Friday.

Lebanese heavy metal music fans are in for a treat if metal demi-gods Iron Maiden come later this year, as rumour has it.

"Lebanon had a tragic history for 15 years but I feel it is getting better now," Mr. Gold told Reuters.

"Many more bands should come and play Beirut to prove this is a place of peace," added Mr. Gold, who like Irish rock star Chris De Burgh, who played two sellout

shows in Beirut last September, said he was not afraid to set foot in the Lebanese capital.

Gold's countrymen Heinrich Struebig and Thomas Kempfner and De Burgh's compatriot Brian Keenan were among westerners held hostage in Lebanon by Muslim militants.

Most bands played on the peace theme during the two shows. Pop group Culture Beat urged the crowd of young women in tight tops and jeans-clad young men, many with baseball caps worn backwards, to raise their hands high in the peace sign.

Alphaville's thundering hit "Peace On Earth" — and other crowd-pleasers like "Big In Japan" and "Forever Young" — metamorphosed into a jam session with teenage girls swaying atop their boyfriend's shoulders.

Soldiers with sub-machineguns guarding the venue looked in bewilderment at spectators desperately trying to touch the tattooed singer as he disappeared in a cloud of smoke that engulfed the stage under blue and red lights and laser beams.

"There is nothing like music to help people forget the bloodshed and feuds of recent years,"

said Sheikh Osama Zahran, chairman of Beirut-based Multimedia Distribution Company, when his firm contracted three international acts for a May 12 show.

Reggae singer Pato Banton, soul singer Rozalla and pop outfit Urban Cookie Collective played then to thousands of teenagers who danced the night away, after years of being confined to listening to favourite bands on private Beirut radio stations.

But not all singers who have flocked to the Mediterranean nation since its cycles of violence ended have crooned stress-free.

Mexico's Lucia Mendez, one of the first stars to come after the war, defied a July 4, 1992, car bombing which killed three people at a soccer stadium in Jounieh Port, performing there at night to a sellout crowd of 10,000.

"I promise to tell the world that Beirut has peace," the dark-haired beauty, smiling but clearly shaken, said before adding: "Please understand I just came here to say hello, to sing my songs and to wish you peace and friendship."

Car bombs killed hundreds of Lebanese during



Marion Gold, lead singer of the German rock group Alphaville, during a concert at a mountain near Beirut August 12. International pop and rock artists are pouring into the former kidnap capital of the world during the 80s but which they say is a 'good vibes' city now.

the war years. A few since last December.

Other European stars bombings have rocked

Beirut since but there have been no disturbances like Samantha Fox, Patricia Kaas and Cheb Khaled have performed in Beirut since 1990, but U.S. groups and singers are still to follow suit as washing-

ton maintains a ban on travel to Lebanon imposed after the TWA hijacking.

Scientists breed maggots for back-to-nature therapy

By Randi Hutter Epstein
The Associated Press

OXFORD — In a dank, fly-infested basement lab, David Rogers proudly displayed the fruit of his labors: A bite-size chunk of liver smothered with thousands of slimy, squirming maggots. Enough maggots, Dr. Rogers estimated, to help heal the wounds of 10 patients — figuring 10 maggots per square centimetre of open sore.

ling field of maggot therapy.

The notion is that maggots devour dead tissue and bacteria lurking in the wound but avoid healthy skin and muscle. In an age of increasing antibiotic resistance, the maggots may do a better job than medicine, proponents say. "It's got global appeal. It's ludicrously cost-effective and low-tech," said Dr. John Church, an orthopedic surgeon. He, along with Dr. Rogers and fellow entomologist Paul Embden, aim to launch maggot therapy here. It is already up and running in

one U.S. hospital.

"We just have to get past what I call the yuck factor," said Dr. Church. "It's this immediate reaction of disgust." The Oxford team has a fertile family of flies, capable of producing hundreds of thousands of offspring every few weeks. "We can produce phenomenal quantities, the biggest problem is overproduction," said Dr. Embden, swarming flies buzzing around the scientists and a visitor. Now they just need the go-ahead from nurses, squeamish about changing

bug-ridden bandages, and hospital managers, antsy about condoning infested wards.

Dr. Church said he has treated one patient successfully, but he would not reveal the patient's details. For at least three centuries, observant doctors had noted that patients with maggot-infested wounds healed faster than those without fly eggs, said Dr. Church. But only recently have a few clinicians sought to bring nature's remedy to hospital wards. Dr. Ronald Sherman,

entomologist-turned-doctor at the University of California, Irvine, completed one of the first studies comparing maggots to medicine. He has been breeding and treating patients at the Veterans Affairs Medical Centre in Long Beach for about five years.

The findings, based on 10 patients and published in the April issue of the Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine, indicated that the bugs could heal wounds that defied medicine. Patients got maggots after medicine failed. The maggots, said Dr. Sher-

man, shrunk the wounds by about 20 per cent to 25 per cent a week. All the patients healed completely within about a month, said Dr. Sherman.

Maggots thrive off dead meat and bacteria, and can "get into the nooks and crannies that antibiotics can't reach," Dr. Church explained. Within about five days, maggots mature into pupa, a hardened cocoon-like stage in which the full-grown fly develops. Bandages must be changed before the flies fly away, said Dr. Church. Most patients require at

least three batches of maggots.

Both Dr. Sherman's and Dr. Church's teams breed green-bottle flies, a common housefly formally known as *Lucilia sericata*. They suspect that other species are just as effective but caution that it is also possible that other types of maggots could invade healthy tissue. In other words: Don't try this without medical assistance. Besides treating patients, the scientists seek to unravel the mysteries of maggot's inherent anti-

bacterial traits. Such findings may yield clues to design more effective antibiotics.

Sherman has a hunch the mechanism may be too complex to replicate. Then, again, if you have the real thing, why settle for an imitation?

"As an entomologist," said Sherman, "I don't see why anybody wouldn't be just as happy with the maggot. But I'm sure if we could come up with a different delivery system without live critters, it would be more acceptable to most people."

Angolan soldiers march home with new spectre of death

By Christopher McDougall
The Associated Press

SAURIMO, Angola — Dangerous ideas fly around an Angolan army campfire — sex with a virgin is a miracle cure, condoms cause impotence, girls can't get Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and a smelly root paste will clear it right up, anyway. Soldiers relaxing with beers shout agreement — unaware that they and their comrades are likely to kill more of their compatriots in the coming years of peace than they did during 20 years of civil war.

While other nations are mobilising to combat the deadly virus, two decades of relentless fighting has turned Angola into "a lethally perfect petri dish for HIV," says Dr. Eben Moussi of the World Health Organisation. "Combat killed 500,000 Angolans: the first years of peace may kill 1 million," Dr. Moussi says. "Psychologically, physically, economically — Angola is not prepared for a disease that will hit with epidemic force."

Also at risk are more than 7,000 international troops and tens of thousands of aid workers from around the world who will soon be deployed across the Southern African nation under a U.N. reconstruction plan. Soon-to-be demobilised government and UNITA

rebel troops pose the greatest threat. According to the Centre for International and Strategic Studies (CISS), infection is so high among African soldiers that they run a far greater risk of dying from AIDS than from warfare.

At least 65 per cent of army hospital beds in Uganda and Zaire are filled by soldiers with AIDS. More than half of Zimbabwe's soldiers are infected with HIV, the virus that causes the disease, according to the CISS study.

Dr. Moussi believes at least 100,000 Angolan government and rebel troops — half the fighting force — are HIV-positive. They are marching home to civilians so war-weakened and vulnerable to disease that Dr. Moussi calls them "lambs for the slaughter."

The fighting that broke out on the eve of Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975 has demolished cities, bankrupted health care coffers and forced more than 80 per cent of Angola's civilians out of farms and villages and onto the coast. Forced migration to overcrowded refugee camps, combined with a life expectancy of 45 years, has broken down sexual taboos that would help restrain spread of the disease, said Angolan Public Health Director Dr. Antonika Hembe.

"And when you warn people about AIDS, they shrug," Dr. Hembe says. "Danger to them are mines, bandits, starvation. AIDS is at the end of the list."

Political urgency also is missing.

"We show the government a map of Africa with flags marking AIDS hot zones — Angola is surrounded, but we can't convince them there's no escape," WHO's Dr. Moussi said. Judging by the 10-20 per cent infection rate in neighbouring Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe, experts estimate at least 10 per cent of Angola's 10 million population already harbours the virus.

But with the country divided by war for 20 years and laboratories in ruins, health workers have been unable to do any AIDS testing, even in the military, where the infection rate is believed to be highest.

Boys as young as 13 were drafted by the thousands into the armies and received sex education from platoon mates on the march. Condoms and chastity were not prominent topics, says WHO AIDS-awareness trainer Ana Filgueiras. And the rape and prostitution that trailed combat and helped spread the disease were further aided by sexual myths specific to Angola.

"Legend has it that sexual relations with a virgin girl can cure a man with a sexual transmitted disease," says Ms. Filgueiras. Young Angolan girls

are now five times as likely to be infected as boys of same age.

"And people believe these tribal healers who tout a noxious ointment they say will cure AIDS, which they call 'war fatigue,'" Ms. Filgueiras adds.

The rebels' top medical officer, Dr. Anastasio Sikato, contacted government doctors two days after the peace treaty was signed in November to ask for help battling the spread of AIDS among his troops.

"I am more fearful for the boys' lives now than ever before," Dr. Sikato said by satellite phone from rebel headquarters.

Transfusions for wounded rebels have been arm-to-arm, with no screening for HIV. Dr. Sikato said. Condoms are not standard-issue in the guerrillas' field packs.

The disease is not strictly a health issue. Because AIDS attacks the country's most productive members — men and women between 16 and 35 years old — it will cut right to the heart of Angola's effort to rebuild and feed the 2 million people battling famine.

Predictions by WHO's Dr. Moussi: More teenagers in AIDS wards than in high school; half the armed forces wiped out by the disease; growing famine as farms, short-handed, fail; industries collapsing through lack of managers; a wild scramble to emigrate.

Tofu discovery: It's good for the heart

By Daniel Q. Haney
The Associated Press

BOSTON — A new study suggests that people with high cholesterol can bring it down if they replace some of the animal protein in their diets with tofu and other soy protein products.

Most talk about the dos and don'ts of a heart-healthy diet focuses on fats, which can affect cholesterol in the bloodstream.

With the latest work, attention is turning to protein.

The researchers theorised that a vegetable form of estrogen known to be present in soy protein directly lowers cholesterol, though exactly how isn't clear. Human estrogen was previously known to bring cholesterol down.

"Soy protein is a very valuable asset to the diet," Dr. James W. Anderson said. "It's grossly underused by the American public."

Soy is widely available as tofu, a spongy bland product, and in drinks, in meat substitutes that have the consistency of hamburger and as flour that

can be used in baking. Dr. Anderson published his analysis in an issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. He said he received \$5,000 from Protein Technologies International, which makes soy protein, to help pay for the work.

He and colleagues from the Veterans Affairs Medical Centre in Lexington, Ky., combined the results of 38 comparison studies of soy protein involving 730 people. Individually, the studies were too small to be conclusive. But put together, the benefits emerge clearly, the researchers say.

In all of these studies, scientists partially substituted soy protein for some of the animal protein in the people's diets and looked at the effects on their cholesterol. The volunteers consumed the same kinds and amounts of fat and cholesterol, regardless of which type of protein they were getting.

On average, they ate 47 grams of soy protein a day in place of animal protein, which usually comes from dairy products, meat and poultry.

Overall, the volunteers' cholesterol levels fell 23

milligrams per deciliter, or 9 per cent, while eating soy protein. However, the effects were significant only for those who already had moderately elevated cholesterol of 259 or above. The biggest benefits were in people with cholesterol over 335.

Only LDL, the so-called bad cholesterol, fell during the soy diets. Levels of HDL, the form of cholesterol that protects against heart disease, did not change.

Dr. Anderson said he believes 20 milligrams of soy protein a day, substituted for animal protein, could be enough to help those who need to lower their cholesterol.

Eight ounces of soy milk contain 4 to 10 grams of soy protein; four ounces of tofu have 8 to 13 grams; one ounce of soy flour has 10 to 13 grams.

Scientists have long known that substituting soy protein can lower cholesterol in lab animals. But the human results have been sketchy.

Dr. Ronald Krauss of the University of California at Berkeley said the American Heart Association's nutrition committee

will take a hard look at soy protein when it rewrites its dietary recommendations. "This is emerging as a potentially important feature of diet that we need to consider as we work up our next set of guidelines," said Dr. Krauss, who heads the committee.

Dr. Anderson was also an early proponent of oat bran to lower cholesterol. The oat bran craze was punctured in 1990 by Dr. Frank Sacks of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He found that people who fill up on oatmeal have lower cholesterol only because they are too full to eat things that are bad for them.

Dr. Sacks was also sceptical of soy protein, but he said Dr. Anderson's latest work has changed his mind.

"For people with high cholesterol levels — in the high 200s and above — it looks like they can get a benefit," he said. "For those in the mid-200s, it may turn out soy protein will have a very small effect. And for the 80 per cent of us in the average range, it probably will not help."

At top medical schools, women start outnumbering men

By Emily Tsao
The Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — On an all-male dormitory floor at the Yale School of Medicine, topless pictures of actress Demi Moore and model Kate Moss hang on a bulletin board beneath a diagram of the chemical structure for testosterone.

Testosterone Alley, the unofficial name given the floor, is one of the few places left at the school where first-year male medical students hold sway.

For the first time in the school's 182-year history, women outnumber men among first-year students, making up 56 per cent of the class that entered in 1994. And Yale is not alone.

Eighteen of the United States' 126 medical schools reported a majority of women in their first-year class this academic year, including Harvard and Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, two other top-ranked institutions where it was also a first.

At both schools, women made up 53 per cent of the first-year class.

Medical school officials are hard-pressed to explain the shift. Yale's admissions director, Lynne Wootton, said the school did not even notice until it tallied its final numbers.

At Harvard, an admissions officer ventured a guess.

"Women seem to communicate better in the interview," said Gerald Foster, Associated Dean for Admissions. Because some female applicants

are older, Mr. Foster also said, "they bring some life experiences and maturity that adds to a class."

But with so many different factors — test scores, recommendations and interviews — influencing admissions decisions, officials at Yale, Harvard and Hopkins said it is difficult to pinpoint what is behind the numbers.

For the past three years, women have made up about 42 per cent of the students applying to U.S. medical schools. They also represented 42 per cent of the new entrants last year.

Final figures for this fall's medical classes are not yet available.

Hopkins has been admitting women since 1893. Yale since 1916, and Harvard since 1945.

Yale has had to make some changes to accommodate the increase in women: A coed locker room outside its anatomy labs had to be converted into a women's locker.

But the gradual gender shift has not created any big waves among students. Both men and women said that dynamics were the same as in their undergraduate years.

"It is hardly something I notice now," said Lynda Kauls, 24, of St. Paul, Minn., a first-year student at Yale.

Robert Gifford, an associate dean at Yale, said it is necessary to take the long view to appreciate the changes. He said the medical school has shed its fraternity-house atmosphere over the past several decades and become a more genteel place.

"I can't tell you how much better it is," he said.

It is a much more civil place to be.

Gone are the days when professors at medical schools would illustrate parts of the body with pictures of women in bikinis or Playboy centerfolds — or in a case recalled at Yale, ask women to step outside a lab while an off-colour joke is told.

Professors are still telling jokes at the medical school, but they are a little more politically correct these days.

Whether it is a story about a monkey driving a bus or a naked man running down the street wear-

ing only a condom, Yale Professor William Stewart begins each anatomy lecture with a joke.

Stewart said he has not changed his repertoire of jokes, but when he refers to a medical student in the joke, that student is no longer always a male.

The men may be learning to curb displays of chauvinism but the photos hanging in Testosterone Alley show some behaviour is not easily changed.

The men say the photos are there for fun. The women rolled their eyes in disgust.

ANSWERS

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. They provide the channels for irrigation and aeration.
2. In the hot sand with which they are covered.
3. As organs of hearing and smelling, and, perhaps something similar to wireless reception.
4. Because they are visited and pollinated by moths and night-flying insects.
5. Viper.
6. Six.

PUZZLES

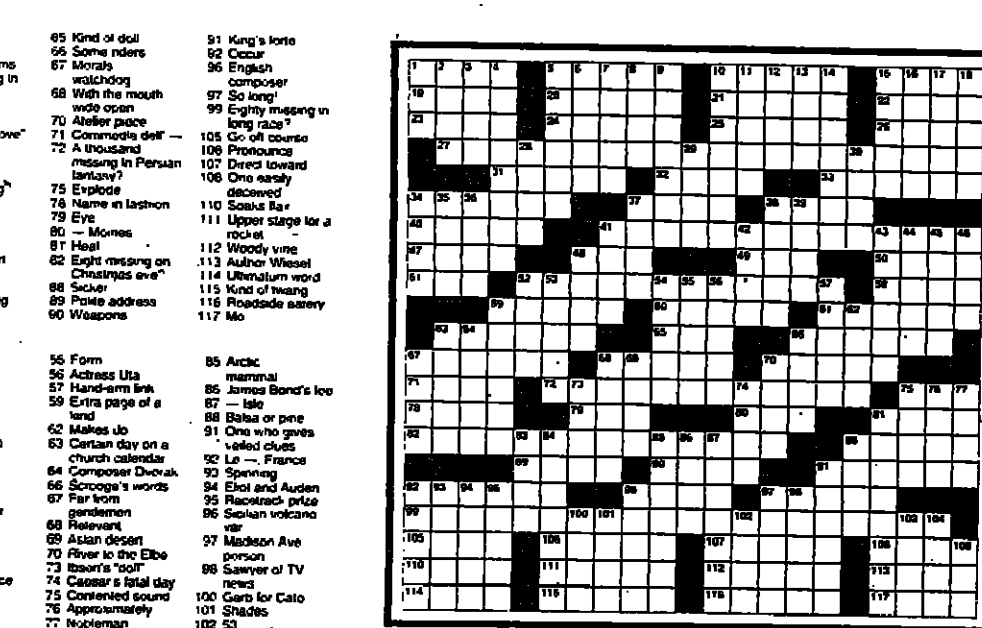
(A) JAMES & JOHN
James will be 80.

(B) NAME THE FLOWERS
1. ROSE
2. LILY
3. DAISY
4. TULIP

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

NUMBER, PLEASE
By Joan D. Berbrich

- ACROSS
1. Common plants
 2. 19th-century novel
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Diagramless, 17 x 17
By Don Johnson

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- CRYPTOGRAMS
1. DUBUMONOTR MOUZUR DWORCN WON
SULTUD ON NOVGC ZWUR WU NUON DW
NLU GTLLUSCOIB TR NUMUR
GTNRUGVDOU OWIRBUN. — By E.C. Doyle
2. LISNS JUQN, U WXYZ DYTAF U-DYTFMT
ZL RUM LAXN YX UMQ LSEKPNFY LUPV
KIVD WYX UFF VPHJN YW UJKEPS YX
JULPMZ. — By Rita Salvia
3. VTRJEYSNM MUSK, "PSI PURI ET U
YTMOTATISME ORME PD JUG KSJJDGR
JUTO PSI PURIM ET U YTMOTATISME." — By Dr. Bruce E. McGarry
4. HKEUTRNPH NPHRB FULF FNBA EUMBS
BAUM BY MEANT MEAT MET FLUSH
HNBURP. — By Ed Huddleston

King voices deep disappointment over Iraqi policies

(Continued from page 1)

fellow citizens, that my resolve is derived from my determination to seek God's blessings, and that I derive my ability and my resolve from a life-long journey with all of you, a journey during which we faced the most difficult and ferocious challenges, and throughout which I was with you and among you, witnessing your admirable patience, your stamina, and your affection towards me. Throughout this journey, you have known what is in my heart of hearts and in my soul in terms of feelings of trust, sincerity, and overwhelming love.

My utmost desire throughout these years has been my concern to preserve and protect your dignity, which is my dignity, and to defend your right to a life of freedom and dignity, where the human being can exercise his humanity without being denied the right to contribute towards building the future of his country and nation, where the human being can enjoy his inalienable rights and perform his duties in an atmosphere of freedom, honour, and dignity among his people, and where his efforts and contributions as well as his awareness are truly recognised among his or her people.

Dear brothers and sisters, These are some of our visions and aspirations at this stage, and hopefully will continue to be the same. They have not come out of a void, and certainly did not come about without suffering, for we have faced so many challenges until we became a solid tree, admired by those who bode us well, and envied by hypocrites everywhere. I say this while I see the Jordanian model evolving into clear and sincere stance, unwavering resolve, a tolerant democracy, a balanced pluralism, and a clear awareness of the state of the nation which compels us all, in the spirit of the responsibility which we bear, to send a call across the nation, whenever we hear of a hungry child or a patient short of medicine, or a village without education, or whenever a free man suffers from the injustice of a prison, and the oppression of a jailer.

It is through this clear nationalistic vision that we wish for the nation to wake up to the reality of a world that has changed to the extent that it witnessed the rise of a historical movement that brought to surface contradictions of all sorts at the same time.

It is our duty towards our nation, now that we have learnt about this new world all that we can learn, to be sincere in our advice and our opinions, as we have always been sincere in affection and consultation, particularly since we have given martyr after martyr in every corner of its vast land in pursuit of justice, setting a model to the world at large as to the meaning of revolution and the

purty of revolutionaries.

Dear brothers and sisters, Much has been said about Iraq, which has and always will be our brotherly nation, whose peoples pain and suffering will always be felt by us, a noble land rich with heritage and that has every right to take its place among its nation and the rest of the world, the birthplace of human civilisations that enriched the rest of the world, a country, along with its people and armed forces, that has in our hearts and minds, here in Jordan, a very special place characterised by true brotherhood, which we both experienced over a long period of time, and a fraternity that was nurtured by bright pages of history from the time that "Hammurabi" represented the birth of the Abbasid era all the way until the time of the Great Arab Revolt, which fought for freedom, unity, cohesion, and progress — a time that the armies of Islam, from which were born our own Jordan Arab Army and its fellow Arab army.

Both these armies fought our nation's eternal battles and gave martyrs, who watered with their blood our land and the land of the Arabs at large.

As for us, the house of the Prophet, the monuments of our martyrs dot the land of Iraq, and rise high, as do the banners of the Hashemites in every struggle towards freedom, justice, and human dignity.

Such has been the history of the Hashemites since the days of the Imam Ali Ben Abi Taleb and his sons, Al Hassan and Al Hussein, and through to the time of King Faisal the Second and his family, whose blood was spilled from the same source, that of Karbala, to water the land of Iraq in defence of principles, right, and dignity.

As Iraq stood by Jordan, so did Jordan stand by Iraq in its darkest hours and days, particularly on that day when we were surprised by its war with Iran.

At that time we referred to Iraq as the eastern gate to the world, and for a long time, I lived this problem with its people, I spent as much time and before there as I did with my nation — Jordan.

Circumstances in the region and the homeland, as you well remember, were difficult and the future appeared to be bleak.

And before anyone thinks that I have ambitions in Iraq let me assure everyone, as God is my witness, that my only ambition is witnessing Iraq coming out of its long night of suffering into a new dawn of freedom, which will remove all the causes of its suffering, both internal and external.

I say all this because it may cross someone's mind that I may be seeking the position which I once occupied on the day that my childhood com-

panion King Faisal the Second, son of King Ghazi, son of Faisal Bin Al Hussein, when I was his deputy and when I was presiding over the Arab union, which combined our two countries.

Faisal the Second departed, when he was in his prime, a victim of the combined conspiracies of enemy forces inside the Arab World and outside. His life was taken tragically when he was in the prime of his youth.

And I remember and remind (you), that I willingly accepted the will of God as concerns the martyrs of my family. For we the Hashemites seek nothing but God's blessings, so that we may continue to be able to perform our duties in this earthly life, after which we hope to meet our Majid along with the chosen few from His martyrs and servants.

We left it up to the Iraqi people to chart their own course and to live their own lives. And we wished that the different elements of its social fabric, be they Sunni or Shiite, Arab or Kurd, brought together by the Hashemites would not be disintegrated.

We prayed and continue to pray to the Almighty to protect its national unity and its sovereignty over its entire land, and to guide the continued unity of its people under a respectable and harmonious pluralism, where no single element of that social fabric would hegemonise the others, and where none of its rights would be eliminated, in an atmosphere of freedom, democracy, and respect for human rights.

When the Iraq-Iran war ended, optimism reigned in terms of Iraq's ability to recover, prosper, and progress. We all hoped that it would become a factor of stability and development among its nation, and that the door of opportunity would be wide open, again, for its people to contribute towards the enrichment of the nation and human civilisation. We also wished for Iraq and its people to enjoy the fruits of progress under a peace, which we have wished for the entire region, its people, and its future generations.

Our advice and wishes were presented to the Iraqi leadership in abundance, in so far as its policies and its positions towards the Arab and international communities were concerned.

We were always heartened to hear from that leadership, in different Arab summits, a categorical rejection of interference in other countries' affairs, and a total commitment to rejecting use of Arab weapons by any Arab country against another and that the smallest Arab country or Arab people enjoy the same rights as the largest, and that if one country attacks another, it would be the duty of the other countries to stop it, even to wage war against it, to halt the aggression.

Iraq as its leadership declared, even called on its Arab brothers to take that

attitude against it if it ever attacked another Arab country.

We were all comforted at that time by what we heard, and we continued in our march towards achieving harmony and cohesion throughout our vast homeland.

And suddenly, we were struck by the lightning news of the Iraqi attack on, and subsequent occupation of, our sister Kuwait over a disagreement between the two brotherly countries. This occupation was commanded by the same leadership that made the aforementioned commitment.

Paced by this shock we in Jordan moved immediately to settle the matter in an Arab context, and to explore all possible Arab avenues to secure an immediate Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, and then try to settle the dispute between the two countries in a peaceful, brotherly way.

In the event of failure to do so, we would resort to every possible means available to us to liberate Kuwait to ensure that this matter did not get out of Arab hands, something which would have entailed serious repercussions.

In any case, fate determined the course of events, and the conflict was internationalised, which took its negative toll on Arab national interests.

The Arab imbroglio the world over was shaken as a direct result of brotherly Iraq's invasion of brotherly Kuwait and all its ramifications to this very day.

As for the Iraqi leadership itself, its policy from the very beginning of our contemporary relations was based on concealing all that was related to their major policy decisions, starting with their war with Iran, and through to their occupation of Kuwait.

And after the issue was internationalised, our advice fell on deaf ears, although this advice was always true and honest and in line with our concern for the interest of our nation, its peoples, the destiny of its generations, and the welfare of Iraq itself.

We in Jordan have shouldered the burden and our sufferings were great. There came to our country a million displaced people and we had to accord them hospitality as is the custom in our country. We also received 400,000 expatriates from Kuwait and the Gulf states. This ordeal started since the first day of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait followed by a land and maritime blockade on Jordan and we faced a war around us and military threats directed against us.

We endured that stage with dignity and we were alone. We recruited all able bodied men to carry arms and defend the Kingdom and prevent any attack on it from any source. We also worked hard politically to find a peaceful formula to deal with the disaster but in vain.

We moved to different parts of the world to help achieve that goal, only to hear the Iraqi brothers com-

mitting further deeds and issuing statements that contradicted our peaceful endeavours to serve Iraq and the Arab Nation.

The Iraqi attitude had negatively affected our credibility at the Arab and international levels.

Then the war broke out. The rockets and missiles started flying through our airspace hitting civilian targets in Israel and Arab cities. Have you ever heard from me this question which I now ask: Was Iraq really aware of the danger of firing rockets through our airspace and the dangers that would ensue from Israel's reprisal, with the consequences affecting the Kingdom, which stood alone and besieged at the time?

Or was that action another one of the numerous unrealistic actions and behaviours which the Iraqis as well as all the Arabs had suffered from and continue to suffer from this moment?

It is for the first time that you hear me asking this question. But the world had been seeking continuously and with all my power to end the sufferings of the dear Iraqi people.

This effort continued with the help of my Jordanian people.

Here I wonder, for the first time, and did: Did the Iraqi authorities purposely contribute to spreading shadows and doubts over our integrity and our stand and over our keenness on safeguarding the Arab interests for all Arab states without discrimination?

We had never conspired against any Arab state in our lives. Had we been in a position with influence, with our views accepted by the world, and all the Arabs would have been alright now.

All these questions never occurred to me until the last days although I was haunted by suspicions over the information that reached us and reached the world at large not with regard to the suffering of the Iraqi people as a result of the embargo, which they have been enduring with pride and perseverance, but rather also the suffering that resulted from the malpractices that deprived Iraqi citizens of the most basic human rights.

Dear brothers,

I would like here to refer to Lt.-Gen. Hussein Kamel and his family and say that they have contributed to removing the veil from our eyes so that we could see the real situation in Iraq and the pain and the sufferings. This family had encountered no less pain when its members decided to defect and leave behind the great position, the luxury and the easy life they had enjoyed in Iraq for a great relief... for their conscience with regard to their people and the Iraqi army.

Hussein Kamel and his family have arrived here in their uncle's home and they enjoy their care according to their own choice and en-

joying the protection of the Jordanian people.

Hussein Kamel and his family enjoy care and hospitality in a country brotherly to Iraq, among people who love the Iraqis and Iraq, people who are pained over the Iraqi people's pain and sufferings, people who wish that the Iraqis will soon see the end of the dark tunnel and come out to witness a new dawn.

I have known this brother who chose to come to Jordan seeking security and safe haven. We have known that he had never been an agent to any party in this world.

Jordan has no agents and does not welcome or give protection to agents or traitors.

Hussein Kamel came to Jordan to tell me about his decision as soon as he arrived, asking that I accept him to live here because he knows how the Iraqis have been living here in my heart and my conscience and in the heart of Jordan, which throbs with love for the Iraqi people and the Arabs at large.

He is an Arab and true Iraqi youth who had succeeded in gathering around him a team considered the elite of the Iraqi people known for their efficiency, and they worked together to complete the construction of their country and their armed forces and to meet the country's needs in its long war with the Islamic brotherly country of Iran. That was partly caused by the dispute over Shatt Al Arab which the Iraqi leadership itself had ceded and stopped demanding sovereignty over it in accordance with the Algiers agreement between Iraq and Iran when this leadership accepted Al Thaloj as the border line with Iran. This war had caused a stream of blood to flow on both sides for eight years. It is the same leadership that after the end of the war with Kuwait that again accepted the Thaloj line as a border.

Perhaps, out of all the bloodshed, we now witness the demarcation of the Iraqi-Iranian borders and the Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders and we see Iraq recognising Kuwait before the whole world, and declaring its commitment and its respect for that country.

Hussein Kamel supervised the establishment of the Republican Guards and the Special Guards of the Iraqi army. He succeeded in serious tasks for the reconstruction of the infrastructure of Iraq's institutions and succeeded in reactivating and operating them in the aftermath of the Gulf war disaster.

The last few years were indeed hard and full of tragedies and challenges.

I was shocked once again recently to hear news that had been confirmed to me by Hussein Kamel in our first meeting when he disclosed to me about Iraq's intentions to mass troops against brotherly Kuwait for another occupation had there not been a prompt Arab and international response against these

moves. There were plans that were debated just days before he sought refuge in Jordan. The debate took place at the highest level in Iraq in preparation for an attack on Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

It is enough to say that the mere thought of such action and the probability of its execution constitutes a horrible catastrophe for the Arab Nation, which has not dressed its bleeding wound. This action would bring about a catastrophe, with the destruction of the remainder of the Iraqi army and its Republican Guards and was bound to disintegrate and lose and the uprooting of the eastern gate of the Arab Nation.

With all pain and grief and sadness I hereby declare and warn that the major and influential world powers would continue relentlessly to uncover all Iraqi programmes to make weapons of mass destruction — nuclear, chemical, biological — and their means of delivery. I warn that these powers will not lift the embargo on Iraq until all these weapons have been destroyed. These powers will continue to pursue their efforts to see Iraq implementing all U.N. Security Council resolutions, foremost of which is the complete disclosure about the missing Kuwaitis in Iraq.

This is what we have long sought to disclose and also the decisions related with human rights in Iraq.

All these facts and the suffering were the reasons for the departure of Hussein Kamel and his family from their country to another part of their big homeland. This was after he spoke there and tried to bring reform in every field open to him until he was frustrated by desperation and convinced that he will not succeed in his efforts. He had come to our country and spoke to you and to the Iraqis and the world from my home, which is also his home, and from my country, which is his, to reply to the charges directed against him. He talked on behalf of millions of Iraqis and to millions of Iraqis from Jordan, the haven of the oppressed who are seeking liberty, as it was through history. In his position of responsibility, he was prevented by his conscience from attacking his people in his country and voluntarily chose to leave, accepting to take all consequences and refusing to enjoy what the majority of the Iraqi people are deprived of, seeking to save his country and protect its unity and right to life.

Dear Brothers, These are the facts which shrouded the recent developments in brotherly Iraq and the tragic suffering of its people. And as I am used to, I had to inform you and the rest of the Arab peoples some of these facts.

Regarding the talk that Jordan might close its borders with Iraq or block food and medicine supplies to its people, this is something that

has never crossed our minds because we are with the people of Iraq with all our might until its long suffering ends. Regarding our search for a substitute source or sources of oil we are importing from Iraq in payments of more than \$1.1 billion in debts (thus far as I was informed recently), we are only looking for precautionary substitutes out of our duties towards our people in facing any extraordinary situation that might, at any time, halt oil supplies from Iraq temporarily.

The answer to the talk that some party in the world is practising pressure on us in any issue, as it is known, we have proved during our march and before the whole world that we do not submit to pressures, no matter how severe our suffering is, and that we only follow our convictions and the guidance of our living conscience, thank God, knowing that our heads will never bow down but for the Almighty. It is a source of relief for us to have this small country becoming big with its people; and the support we receive from the (countries of the) world will be met with gratitude and appreciation.

Concerning rumours that we have fears of an imminent Iraqi attack on Jordan, Al Hussein, who was honoured to be the first Jordanian volunteer to join the Yarmouk Force rushing to Iraq's aid, knows, along with the whole Jordanian people and army, that the love and devotion he has to his nation, country and brotherly Iraq will make the Iraqi army, which descends from the Great Arab Revolt army, supportive of it (Jordan) against any one trying to undermine the eternal (brotherly ties).

My dear family, The keenness to present facts before all and the keenness to safeguard the interests of Iraq and the whole Arabs is the reason for these frank, brief words which I wanted to have as a call which will reach... the brotherly Iraqi people and army which offered many sacrifices for its nation. I am confident that Almighty the God is with the people of Iraq, and that we and our nation are with it, as are all the people with a living conscience and every believer in human rights, freedom, and democracy. May God protect Iraq from every evil and help it regain the state of security and peace, to continue construction and to lead an honourable life and take its suitable status in the ranks of its nation, in order to have Iraq as a proponent of conciliation, solidarity, cooperation and tolerance...

These are the features of our perspective of the situation and the future of the nation. When we present facts in such clarity, we only express the right of our people and the nation to be aware of developments and to enable them to take a stand satisfactory to all of us...

Scholars see misguided concepts of Islam

(Continued from page 12)

whether the West in general and the U.S. in particular can tolerate Islam and Islamic choices in their definition of what is meant by pluralism. Can the American government, the advocate of pluralism, they ask, really learn to celebrate the differences inherent in the Islamist vision in the world?

The Crown Prince, in his meeting with the scholars, voiced hope that the workshop would achieve "the establishment of facts — and only facts — regarding the history of Muslim perceptions of Christianity, and Christian perceptions of Islam."

"The risk today is that exaggerated fears will lead to a double standard in the promotion of democracy and human rights in the Muslim World," he said, citing Western concern and action for democratising the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe but "muted or ineffective response with regard to the promotion of democracy in the Middle East or the defence of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

Yvonne Haddad, professor of Islamic history at the University of Massachusetts, argued that pluralism in Islamic understanding is not a Western invention, but is the essence of Islam "as revealed in the Koran and practised by the Prophet Mohammad and advocated by the rightly guided caliphs."

"It is clear that the debate within Islam circles concerning pluralism is engaged and will go on for some time," said Ms. Haddad. "Critics and observers wonder which will prevail as final truth if an Islamic system is instituted... but at the same time, Islamists question

whether the West in general and the U.S. in particular can tolerate Islam and Islamic choices in their definition of what is meant by pluralism. Can the American government, the advocate of pluralism, they ask, really learn to celebrate the differences inherent in the Islamist vision in the world?"

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Israel says 'masterminds' held

(Continued from page 1)

1983," the prime minister told reporters.

"He has become the spiritual guide of the engineer Yahya Ayyash and perhaps even more."

Mr. Rabin did not name the sheikh but said he frequently changes address in Damascus.

Israeli radio reported that Mr. Ayyash is now hiding in disguise under a different name in the autonomous Gaza Strip.

Israel lifted at dawn Wednesday a ban on Gaza workers entering the Jewish state, which had been imposed immediately after Monday's blast, the army said.

But the West Bank was to remain sealed off until at least dawn Thursday.

Security officials said they had a tip that Hamas was planning another suicide bombing from the West Bank.

The closure prevents more than 15,000 West Bankers with work permits from reaching their jobs inside Israel.

Israel only lifted a 10-day closure on the Gaza Strip on Sunday.

That closure had been imposed after reports that Hamas was plotting to blow up a car in the centre of Tel Aviv. Three Hamas suspects surrendered to Palestinian police on Friday after a six-hour siege of their hideout in Gaza City.

Mr. Rabin also said Wednesday military groups sought to topple his government through suicide bombings.

Military exercises draw to a close

(Continued from page 1)

American Marine unit had docked at Aqaba three days earlier and started moving equipment.

The joint assault on an enemy position that began early Wednesday is the last of the various stages of exercises, which also involved training in logistical skills such as setting up bases, loading, unloading and installing equipment and offering support services.

By midmorning Wednesday, the joint force had moved seven kilometres into the desert after a vanguard U.S. Marine unit "secured" a hilltop and deployed in battle-ready positions.

Corporal Tommy Carper, 24, of Texarkana, Texas, lay sprawled on his stomach, with an M-16 at the ready and keeping an alert eye down-bill. It was difficult to imagine anyone staying for more than 10 minutes in that position, with both elbows firm on the ground, propping up the gun and eyes glued to the sunspots.

The terrain "is a little different" from that the Marine unit is used to in the California desert, said Cpl. Carper, happily taking a few minutes off from his vigil to talk to the Jordan Times. But "we are getting along okay," said Cpl. Carper, who had been holding that position for two hours and expected to remain there "for a while" before moving ahead for the "final phase" of the manoeuvres.

"We take it day by day."

October because the U.N. commission will have to present its bi-annual report on the results of its mission to the Security Council on Oct. 11.

The report will be "very significant," he said.

"We are more hopeful for the process" in light of Iraq's new policy of full cooperation with the U.N., Mr. Ekeus told reporters.

Mr. Ekeus earlier met with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh and briefed him on the outcome of his visit to Iraq.

Ekeus

(Continued from page 1)

But, he said, the speed with which his commission will proceed will depend on continued Iraqi openness towards the U.N.

The U.N. official said Iraq had none but itself to blame for the continuation of the sanctions, saying that its previous policy of concealing information from the U.N. was responsible for the delay in implementing the Gulf war ceasefire resolutions and lifting the sanctions.

Mr. Ekeus said he might go back to Iraq in September or

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European Swimming Championships

Van Almsick stumbles in 200m

VIENNA (Agencies) — German golden girl Franziska Van Almsick stumbled on Wednesday in an uncanny repeat of a past world championship fiasco but this time there was no fairytale solution to her woes.

Van Almsick, who collected her first two titles of the 1995 European Swimming Championships on Tuesday, blundered for the second time in a year in the heats of her top event, the 200 metres freestyle, and failed to qualify for the final.

Tears of sorrow turned to tears of joy in Rome last

this time for the 17-year-old Berliner, last of the East German "wundermaedchen," when she mismanaged her heat and finished a tantalising 0.05 seconds outside the time of the eighth and slowest qualifier, Malin Nilsson of Sweden.

Fellow former East German Kerstin Kielgass had set the top qualifying time and women's team chief Achim Jedamsky said there was no question of her yielding her place.

"No way. It's not a subject for discussion," he said, annoyed that Van Almsick

Van Almsick, who had made successful title defences in Tuesday's 100 freestyle and 4 x 200 freestyle relay, posted the fastest 100-metre split time of 59.27 seconds but faltered to finish third behind Kirsten Vlieghuis of the Netherlands and Louise Joehneke of Sweden. Her time of two minutes 2.99 seconds was more than six seconds outside her Rome world record 1:56.78.

"I never thought about Rome when I was swimming," said Van Almsick, whose supremely marketable image has earned her a fortune in sponsorship and promotion since she came away from the 1992 Olympics at 14 with four medals.

She said she had deliberately eased off in Rome to avoid swimming the final in "pole" position in lane four but this time it had been different.

"Here it was just an emotional matter because the pressure was so high," added Van Almsick, who had said on Monday she hoped history would not repeat itself.

"I wasn't feeling in a good mood. I'm not the super-star everybody makes me out to be. It's not to carry the label 'this girl will win seven titles,'" she said.

"You can talk to people and friends about pressure beforehand but when I'm on the blocks I wonder: 'What will happen if I don't win?' I'll be the loser of the nation."

Coach Dieter Lindemann said Van Almsick was burdened by two kinds of pressure — internal pressure from knowing she should do well as she was in very good shape and had performed well in training, and externally from the media and the rest.

"Franziska probably notices it more now because



Russia's Vera Ilyina on her way to taking the gold medal at the final of the women's 1-metre driving competition (AFP photo)

she's getting older," he said. "It's quite normal and human to lose. Everyone can see she is not a machine."

Her business manager Werner Koester said promotional demands were not to blame. "There was sufficient

quiet time for preparation. She had three weeks training camp at high altitude in Spain and three weeks without any commercial dates apart from one promotion here last week," he said.

Earlier Peggy Buechse won

the women's 25-kilometres long distance event.

Buechse clocked 5 hours 32 minutes 36.4 seconds, ahead of Edith Van Dijk of the Netherlands at 5:36:05.5 and Czech Republic's Yveta Hlavakova at 5:38:08.3.



Winner of the women's 25km event Peggy Buechse of Germany (centre) holds up her gold medal at the European Swimming Championships (AFP photo)

September when teammate Dagmar Hase sacrificed her place in the final and Van Almsick handed the rampant Chinese a rare defeat and clinched the title in world record time.

Hase was rewarded with a free holiday and an extra 500,000 marks (\$320,000) went into the team's bonus pool as Germany celebrated a triumph bizarrely conjured out of failure.

But there was no reprieve

could repeat her Rome error and wreck chance of an unprecedented seven golds at these championships.

"It's unacceptable. Her trainer specifically warned her not to take it too easily," Jedamsky fumed.

"In training it had been drilled into her that she should not underestimate the opposition."

"What can a trainer do with athletes who don't swim to their full potential?"

Agassi, Graf top Open seeds

NEW YORK (AFP) — World number one Andre Agassi and troubled women's co-number one Steffi Graf were named the top seeds for the U.S. Open Tennis Championships here Tuesday.

Agassi, top seeded here for the first time, becomes the first player since Australia's John Newcombe in 1967 to be seeded number one after being unseeded the previous year.

Graf is seeded first here for the eighth time, matching the all-time record set by Chris Evert and Helen Willis Moody. But she has been troubled in recent weeks by the arrest of her father on tax evasion charges as well as back pain.

Monica Seles, who won the Canadian Open title Sunday in her first tournament since being stabbed and missing 28 months, was made the second seed even though she shares the number one ranking under a special WTA ruling.

Three-time reigning Wimbledon champion Pete

Sampras, who began the year number one, was seeded second among men, followed by Austria's Thomas Muster, Germany's Boris Becker, American Michael Chang, Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic, Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Germany's Michael Stich.

Sweden's Thomas Enqvist, second only to Agassi in hardcourt triumphs this year, is seeded ninth, followed in order by South Africa's Wayne Ferreira, Spain's Sergi Bruguera, Dutchman Richard Krajcek, Switzerland's Marc Rosset, Americans Jim Courier and Todd Martin and Ukraine's Andre Medvedev.

Spain's Arantxa Sanchez Vicario was seeded third among the women, followed by compatriot Conchita Martinez, Czech Jana Novotna, France's Mary Pierce, Japan's Kimiko Date, Bulgaria's Magdalena Maleeva, Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini and American Lindsay Davenport.

Texaco to donate gasoline to Olympics

ATLANTA (AP) — Texaco will help fuel the 1996 Summer Olympics by donating gasoline and oil, organisers announced Tuesday.

As official petroleum provider of the Atlanta Games, Texaco will provide fuel and lubricants for Olympic vehicles during next summer's events and during the 24,000 kilometre Olympic torch relay before the Games.

The sponsorship will involve many of the 14,000 Texaco stations, said Glen F. Tilton, senior vice president of Texaco Inc.

"It's appropriate for Texaco, an energy company, to be associated with something generating as much energy and as much competition," as the 1996 Games, Tilton said.

Officials of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games did not disclose the financial terms of the sponsorship, although such sponsorships normally involve both cash and non-cash contributions.

Non-cash deals do not put cash in ACOG's coffers, but they reduce the need for organisers to spend money for equipment and services that are necessary to stage the games. ACOG's budget is \$1.58 billion.

The sponsorship allows Texaco to use the Olympic logo for promotions. Related television ads will hit the airwaves in fall, Tilton said.

Joining Texaco in the sponsorship is Star Enterprises, a refining and marketing affiliate that supports 9,400 Texaco stations in 26 states.

Juventus must face up to ex-captain Baggio

ROME (R) — For many Juventus fans, Roberto Baggio already did the unthinkable by signing for AC Milan. They now fear the unbearable may follow.

After helping the Turin giants prise the title from the grasp of the Milanese arch-rivals last season, the World Cup attacker stunned the faithful by changing sides.

The two clubs seized the opportunity at the same time to announce a planned marketing joint venture but on the field the old rivalry is sure to remain as strong as ever.

The unbearable would be for the "divine piggie" — who on Sunday dons Milan's red and black shirt for the first time in a league match when Italy's Serie A season kicks off — to successfully help snatch back the "Scudetto" (shield).

Speaking like a born-again Milan fan, the former Juventus captain had to doubt his new club can do it.

"Having seen what (George) Weah can do, and considering our organisation on the field, I have no doubts: We are the best team in Italy. I feel at home," he said.

Wealthy Milan, European Cup Winners three times between 1989 and 1994 and runners-up in 1993 and 1995, were the big spenders of the close season in a determined effort to clamber back to the top after a rare year without honours.

Liberian striker Weah, twice African player of the year, joined from Paris St. Germain and has looked an exciting prospect in friendly matches.

Milan can also count on Montenegrin Dejan



Roberto Baggio

Savicevic, French midfielder Marcel Desailly, Croatian Zvonimir Boban and Portugal's Paulo Futre in their costly squad.

"We must win, we must, absolutely. Milan has one key objective — to get back in the European Cup. And to do that we are ready to attack," said Savicevic.

Italy's August Gazzetta Dello Sport newspaper, which celebrates its 100th anniversary this season, declared Weah and Parma's Bulgarian Hristo Stoichkov the two most impressive foreigners. England's Paul Ince at Internazionale was third.

Juventus, who have won the title a record 23 times, have decided to keep faith with last season's heroes and have been noticeably absent from the overseas market. Their only foreign signing is 19-year-old Argentine defender Juan Pablo Sorin.

They are looking mostly towards the charisma of former Italian international striker Gianluca Vialli, reuniting him with two of the Sampdoria players with

whom he won the European Cup Winners' Cup and league title in 1990 and 1991.

The shaven-headed striker, cast aside by national coach Arrigo Sacchi, has plenty of motivation to try and crown his career by lifting the European Cup and muscling his way back into the Italian team for next year's European Championship finals.

Alessandro Del Piero, 20 and in his third season at Juventus, is likely to take over the number 10 shirt he wore during Baggio's long injury-enforced absence last season.

Stoichkov's move from mighty Barcelona to Parma brings the stormy striker to a small town club with a big bank balance and an even bigger yearning for a first league title.

First day's fixtures (August 27):

Atlanta-Parma, Bari-Napoli, Fiorentina-Torino, Inter-Vicenza, Juventus-Cremone, Lazio-Piacenza, Padova-Milan, Sampdoria-Roma, Udinese-Cagliari.

Majoli wins, Sukova upset

MAHWAH, New Jersey (R)

Fifth seed Iva Majoli of Croatia had some difficulty with a brisk wind before settling down to beat Anna Smashnova of Israel in the first round of the Pathmark women's tennis classic on Tuesday, the final tune-up even for the U.S. Open.

Majoli, ranked 12th in the world, got off to a slow start before taking charge for a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory in a match that featured 16 service breaks.

Majoli said that the wind gave her more problems than her opponent.

"On one side, you hit the ball and it goes flying, while on the other side your ball goes short," said Majoli, who has reached the final in Barcelona, two semifinals and four quarter-finals this year.

"I hope to do well so I'll be ready for the U.S. Open next week," added Majoli, who will be seeded 13th at the Open.

Veteran Czech serve and volleyer Helena Sukova, seeded eighth, fell in the first round just a week after her big upset win over second-ranked Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in Toronto.

The 14th-ranked Sukova was surprised by 51st-ranked Dutchwoman Kristie Boogert 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Seventh-seeded American Lisa Raymond, ranked 20th, found her range midway through the first set and went on to beat former top-10 player Andrea Temesvari of Hungary 7-5, 6-2.

The two-time U.S. college champion rallied from a 2-4 deficit in the first set and broke away from 2-2 tie in the second set.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Drechsler leaps to year's best

LINZ, Austria (R) — Heike Drechsler won the women's long jump with the world's best leap of the year at a Grand Prix athletics meeting on Tuesday. The German, bouncing back from her disappointing world championships in Gothenburg, jumped 7.07 metres setting a new stadium record in the process in front of 10,000 spectators. "It was great," Drechsler said. "It was even against the wind. It was very satisfying. Daniela Bartova of the Czech Republic continued her remarkable string of world records in the pole vault with a new best of 4.21 metres, one centimetre above her previous record four days earlier in Cologne."

Tarango fined and suspended

NEW YORK (AFP) — Jeff Tarango, who stormed off a Wimbledon court and accused an umpire of favouritism, was suspended for two Grand Slam events and fined an additional \$28,256 by the International Tennis Federation. But the American will compete here next week in the U.S. Open while his case is on appeal, officials said Tuesday. Tarango's suspension by the ITF Grand Slam committee includes next year's Wimbledon and the first Grand Slam event after his appeal, should it be rejected. During a third-round match July 1 against Alexander Mronz, Tarango quit after arguing a call by French chair umpire Bruno Rebeoh, whom he called "the most corrupt official in the game" for helping players he considered friends.

Collymore ankle not broken

LIVERPOOL (AFP) — Britain's most expensive footballer, Stan Collymore, who limped out of his second competitive match for Liverpool in controversial circumstances at Leeds on Monday night, he confirmed that his ankle is painful, but not broken. The 8.5 million striker, signed from Nottingham Forest in the close season, hobbled off after just 20 minutes of the Premiership match, making way for Robbie Fowler. "There's no clear break but it's very swollen and quite painful," said the Anfield Striker. "It takes time to get rid of the bruising and the pain. At this stage it's a similar injury to one I had last season, at Nottingham Forest. I was fortunate to be back within 10 days of doing it."

South Korea beats Indonesia 1-0

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea advanced to the second round of the Asian soccer preliminaries for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics on Tuesday by snatching a 1-0 victory over Indonesia. Midfielder Cho Hyun-Doo, connecting on a free-kick pass from teammate Yoon Jong-Hwan, scored a goal in close range in the 41st minute. Indonesia, led by forward Dwi Yulianto Kurniawan, made several sharp breaks on the South Korean defence but did not translate them into goals. South Korea cleared the first preliminary round at the head of Group C with four victories. The other two Group C teams, Hong Kong and Indonesia, were eliminated. Twenty-five teams are competing for three slots allotted to Asia for the Olympic soccer finals.

Kanchelskis deal back on

EVERTON (AP) — Everton officials said Tuesday they are confident that former Manchester United winger Andrei Kanchelskis will be signed and registered in time to play against Southampton this weekend. A compromise was apparently reached after Manchester United agreed to reopen talks with Kanchelskis's former club, Shaktyor Donetsk, which was claiming 30 per cent of the 5-million-pound (\$7.7 million) transfer fee. "It's a lot of weight off our shoulders and a time for rejoicing, a time for celebrating the final piece in Joe Royle's Jigsaw for this season," Everton director Cliff Finch said. "That's what we want; Andre in a blue shirt."

Muster advances at Croatia Open

UMAG, Croatia (AP) — Top seeded Thomas Muster of Austria defeated Roberto Carretero of Spain 6-3, 3-0 Tuesday, in a first-round match of the \$375,000 Croatia Open tennis tournament. Carretero, 19, ranked 140th by the ATP, gave up the match in a 44th minute due to a pulled stomach muscle. Muster — so far the best seeded player to play at the Umag tournament — obviously dominated that heavy forehead battle. Only in one game he did not have a break point. He lost only six points in games he served. Muster already won Umag tournament in 1992 and 1993. Swedish Magnus Gustafsson defeated Goran Oresic of Croatia 6-2, 6-4. Third-seeded Andrea Gaudenzi of Italy also rolled over his opponent, defeating Jiri Novak of the Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4. Second-seeded Alberto Berasategui of Spain, winner of the last Umag tournament, defeated his countryman Carlos Moya, 18, 6-3, 2-6, 7-6 (7-3).

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH CHAIR SHARP A TANNAN HENRY Tampa, Fla. (R)			
GO FOR THE GUSTO			
Both vulnerable, North deals.			
NORTH			
A J 8 5 2			
Q 8 3			
Q J 9			
A 7 4			
WEST			
A 6 3			
Q 8 5 2			
Q 10 8 4			
Q 10 6 3			
SOUTH			
K Q 10 8 4			
Q 10 7			
Q 3			
A K 8 2			
The bidding:			
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: Three of ♠.			
Bidding and making a slam, especially vulnerable, earns a handsome bonus. If you are going to spurn this extra profit most of the time while the opponents eagerly nibble up their, you rate to be a steady loser. North had to be one of the great underbidders of all time.			
First, as a pained hand we would have raised partner's one-spade			
opening bid to four. Having not done so, we would have been delighted to cooperate with partner's slam investigation by one-bidding four diamonds over four clubs.			
West led a trump, and declarer handled the contract with consummate technique to show that not even a finesse was needed to land 12 tricks. A second round of trumps was drawn, after which declarer set about stripping the minor suits from both hands.			
After making the ace of diamonds and ruffing a diamond, South took the ace and king of clubs and ruffed these tricks, declarer trumped dummy's remaining diamond and led the last club, declarer discarded a heart from dummy instead of ruffing. That left West with a choice of heart into declarer's major tenace, or conceding a stiff-ruff with a diamond return.			
A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," muttered North. "Not if you need two birds," retorted South.			

CINEMA TEL:634144 PHILADELPHIA JIM CARREY AMY YAZBEK THE MASK Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	CINEMA TEL:699238 PLAZA Nabila Obeid & Yousef Sha'aban...in Huda and H.E. the Minister (Arabic) Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:45, 8:30, 10:30	CINEMA TEL:677420 CONCORD CONCORD "1" Ninja Turtles 3 Shows: 12:30, 3:30 Adel Imam in Bakhit and Adileh Shows: 6, 8:15, 10:45 CONCORD "2" SPECIALIST Shows: 3:30, 5:30, 11	AMMOON THEATRE TEL:618274 - 618275 MUSA HIJAZIN "sumaa" IN Hi Citizen daily at 8:30 pm written & directed by Mohammed Shawaqfeh	Nabil & Hisham's Theatre TEL:675571 Presents KABARET Abeer Issa Ghassan Mashini with Amer khamash, Khalil Jahmani, Mohammad Hussein and Issam Al Hanbali The theatre closes on Monday Performances start at 8:30 p.m.	Nabil & Hisham's TEL:625155 AHLAN THEATRE presents (Ahlan Tatbee) Welcome Normalisation Shows start at 8:30 p.m. For reservation please call tel. 625155 Amman
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BRIEF

Bar's best

rechner won the women's cup of the year at a Czech world championships. The German, 10,000 spectators, even against the wind. The Czech Republic, 31 metres, one centimetre, days earlier in Cologne.

Spended

ango, who stormed off in an umpire of favouritism. The German, 10,000 spectators, even against the wind. The Czech Republic, 31 metres, one centimetre, days earlier in Cologne.

broken

's most expensive football. The German, 10,000 spectators, even against the wind. The Czech Republic, 31 metres, one centimetre, days earlier in Cologne.

Indonesia 1-0

advanced to the second preliminary round. The German, 10,000 spectators, even against the wind. The Czech Republic, 31 metres, one centimetre, days earlier in Cologne.

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Croatia Open

seeded Thomas Muster. The German, 10,000 spectators, even against the wind. The Czech Republic, 31 metres, one centimetre, days earlier in Cologne.

RIDGE

GUSTO

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AN THEATRE

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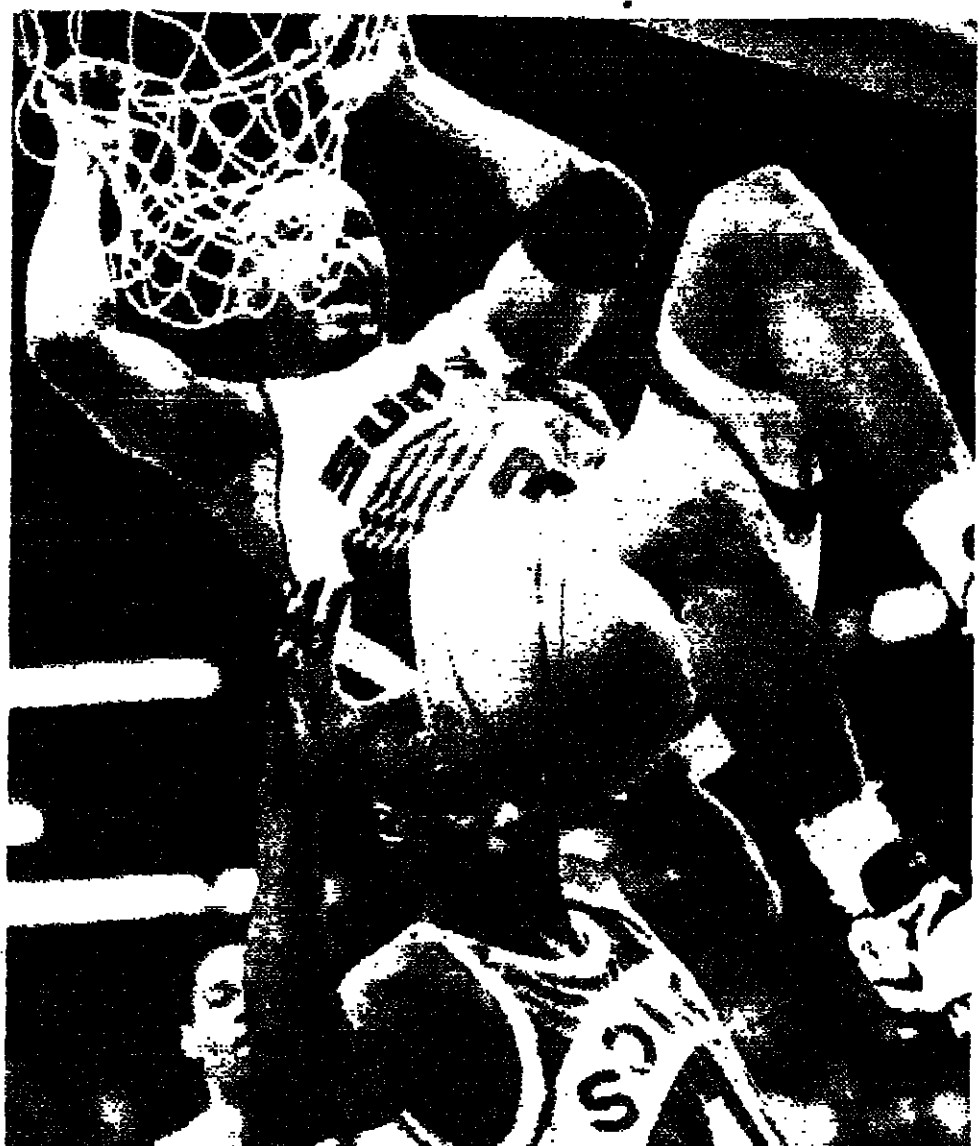
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Charles Barkley dunks the ball over Shawn Kemp of the SuperSonics. (File photo)

Barkley sues Nikon for \$1 million

NEW YORK (AP) — National Basketball Association star Charles Barkley has filed a \$4 million lawsuit against Nikon, claiming the company used an unauthorized photograph of him in a prominent ad.

The Phoenix Suns forward contends he never gave Nikon Inc. permission to use his photograph to sell its cameras.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. district court in Manhattan on Monday, said the ad showed Barkley in uniform with his head back and mouth wide open.

The photo was submitted to the 1995 NBA...



Leeds United's Rod Wallace and Gary Speed during their FA Premiership match. (AFP photo)

Ferdinand scores twice for Newcastle

BOLTON (R) — England striker Les Ferdinand scored twice as Premier League champions Newcastle United won 3-1 at Bolton Wanderers on Tuesday.

Ferdinand, who also scored in Newcastle's 3-0 home win over Coventry on Saturday, put his new team ahead in the 17th minute.

French midfielder David Ginola tricked his way past Scott Green on the Newcastle left and Ferdinand seemed to hang in the air as he reached for the cross, bulleting a header into the bottom corner of the net.

The £6.0 million (\$9.2 million) striker, who moved from Queen's Park Rangers in the off-season, also scored six minutes from time after midfielder Robert Lee had headed Newcastle into a 2-1 lead in the 77th minute.

Ferdinand raced through the Bolton back line leaving a trail of bodies in his wake before rifling his third goal.

Spectacular site for Schumacher-Hill battle

SPA FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (AFP) — World champion Michael Schumacher and challenger Damon Hill fight out the next round of their 1995 battle on the spectacular Belgian Spa Francorchamps track next Sunday.

Victory in Hungary two weeks ago put the British Williams Renault driver only 11 points behind his German Benetton Renault rival. With seven races remaining in the 1995 season, a maximum of 70 points can still be won.

Both drivers have good reason to enjoy Spa. Hill has won the last two races, while Schumacher won his first Grand Prix here in 1992 and made a notable Formula One debut in 1991 when he qualified seventh.

The track, largely on closed public roads, is the most dramatic and popular of all the Grand Prix circuits.

"It's a long trip round Spa, but I enjoy circuits which are big and expansive because you feel you are really using a Formula One car to its full potential," said Hill.

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4,370 athletes competing in 'Student Olympics'

FUKUOKA, Japan (AP) — A U.S. basketball team is battling for a fourth consecutive gold medal. China's swimmers seek to rebound from a doping scandal, and the host city is providing a 48-kilogramme (106-pound) judo world champion.

The World University Games officially opened Wednesday with more than 4,300 athletes from 163 nations and territories competing for 144 gold medals in 12 sports in the highest "Student Olympics" ever.

But soccer started Tuesday, with seven preliminary round games at three stadiums in this city of 1.3 million people.

Host Japan edged South Africa 3-2, Russian blanked the United States 2-0 and Australia beat Britain 2-1. Four other games ended in draws: Canada and Slovakia 0-0, Uruguay and Ireland 1-1, the Czech Republic and Iran 1-1, and Brazil did not arrive in time, and its game with South Korea was postponed.

In the last University Games, in Buffalo, New York, in 1993, the Americans led the medal standings with 75, including 30 gold. Canada followed with 40, Japan had 30 and China and Germany 29 each, although the Chinese were second in golds with 17.

The turnover is large, however, since the games are limited to college students and recent graduates, and professionals are banned.

Thus in men's basketball, the Americans are sending what used to be their Olympic team — the elite of the college players — before the "Dream Team" of pros took over.

Still, "we set the standard of excellence in the U.S.," said Ray Allen, a guard from Connecticut.

Japanese coach Toshimitsu Kawachi echoed that, saying he hoped his team would do well enough in early games to earn a meeting with the Americans.

U.S. coach Lon Kruger of Florida warned, however, "any time you go overseas, the concern would be that maybe they (Americans) don't fully appreciate or have an awareness of how good the foreign teams have become."

The Chinese swimmers were barred from last month's Pan-Pacific Swimming Championships after 11 within a year tested positive for banned drugs. Their team in Fukuoka is led by women's world butterfly champion Lu Min.

Also here are two gold medalists from last year's Asian Games in Hiroshima, Japan.

At those games, seven Chinese tested positive for drugs, including Lu Bin, a three-time world champion, and Yang Aihua, the world 400-metre freestyle champion.

The host city's star is Ryoko Tamura, a 19-year-old, 146-centimetre (4 foot 9 1/2-inch)-tall female judoist with a 64-match winning streak and gold medals from the world championships and Asian Games.

Despite her formidable record, Tamura is known throughout Japan as "yawara-chan," or "softie," a play on words from judo — the "soft way" of fighting.

The athletes are living in a seaside complex, with its own private beach, in a section of town that features rows of new buildings and shopping strips, a landmark tower and the 2-year-old retractable roof Fukuoka Dome. The 52,000-seat dome, home of Fukuoka's professional baseball team, is the site of ceremonies for the opening Wednesday and closing on Sept. 3.

Seven newly built stadiums are among the 24 being used for competition in track and field, basketball, fencing, soccer, gymnastics, swimming, diving, water polo, tennis, volleyball, judo and baseball.

To help police protect the games, organizers decided to mobilize 30,000 private guards after the March 20 nerve gas attack that killed 12 people and injured 5,500 others in the subway of Tokyo, 800 kilometres (500 miles) to the northeast. A 30-day curfew has been blamed for that attack, and its top leaders are in jail awaiting trial.

In the games' 30-year history, the biggest previous turnout was 121 nations for the 1987 competition in Zagreb, Croatia.

Japan had set a target of 130 nations, and to encourage participation it offered free transportation, lodging and meals for two athletes and one official from each country. Some 70 nations accepted.

The budget is 16.7 billion yen (\$174 million), with funds coming from donations, the city of Fukuoka and Fukuoka Prefecture (state).

More than 75,000 university students and thousands of other citizens have volunteered as helpers and interpreters.

University Games-briefs

Security at the world University Games athletes' village is extremely strict — as one journalist found when trying to get treatment for a painful injured back.

The journalist was invited by the chief of delegation of his national team to undergo physiotherapy treatment — but it took 45 minutes of wrangling and form filling before he was allowed into the treatment room in the village.

The journey included filling in two forms, walking through three security checkpoints, including two metal detectors, being issued with a special pass and a coloured sticker to put on that pass.

The journalist made his appointment with seconds to spare.

The parade lasted about 35 minutes longer than the 50 minutes allotted in the ceremony schedule.

South Korea plans to bid to stage the World University Games in 2001 in Taegon or Kwangju.

The 1997 host is Sicily and the 1999 games have been awarded to Palma de Mallorca in Spain.

South Korea already is competing keenly against Japan for the right to serve as host to the 2002 World Cup soccer finals.

Its city of Chonju and Muju resort are hosts for the 1997 Winter University Games, and its southern port of Pusan is to stage the 2002 Asian Games.

The capital, Seoul, was host to the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Summer Olympics.

Tyson to fight Mathis in November

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson will fight Buster Mathis Jr. on Nov. 4 in his final tuneup before fighting for part of the heavyweight title in March, his handlers said Tuesday.

Stung by criticism of Tyson's aborted first comeback fight Saturday night against Peter McNeeley, promoter Don King unveiled a schedule that has Tyson challenging for a world title in his third fight March 16.

Washington ousts Edberg

COMMACK, New York (R) — American Malivai Washington needed just 60 minutes to upset second seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden 6-1 6-4 in the first round of the \$328,000 Genovese Hamlet Cup Tennis tournament on Tuesday.

Washington defeated Edberg, a former world number one, for just the second time in eight career meetings. His only other win came last year in the second round here.

Top seed and defending champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia had no problems routing Frenchman Olivier Delaite 6-1 6-3 in 54 minutes. He lost just 12 points in his eight service games, saving the lone break point he faced despite connecting on just 38 per cent of his first serves.

Kafelnikov reached the semifinals at New Haven last week and owns a 55-20 record in 1995. That is the most matches anyone has played this year on the ATP tour.

Third-seeded Marc Rosset of Switzerland, the 1993 champion, cruised past Czech Martin Damm 6-4 6-4 while Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev rolled over American Richey Reneberg 6-2 6-4.

Omega records space rendezvous

Twenty years after the historic Stafford-Leonov handshake during the Apollo-Soyuz rendezvous, the link-up of the American space shuttle Atlantis to the Russian space station MIR took place Thursday, June 29th at 8:00 a.m. Houston time. The astronauts and the cosmonauts worked 5 days together some 250 miles (400 kilometres) above the Earth. And of course Omega was again present on the astronauts' and cosmonauts' wrists, just as it had been 20 years ago, recording the historic moments of this new space adventure.

With Omega, the Swiss watch industry is participating "hour by hour" in the conquest of space, man's greatest on-going adventure ever.

It all began in 1965 when NASA, after severe testing, selected the Omega Speedmaster Professional as official chronograph for all manned space flights. The Omega Speedmaster has accompanied all the NASA astronauts, from the first Gemini flights through the Apollo and Skylab missions to the present-day Space Shuttle program. And since the Apollo-Soyuz mission in 1975, the Russian cosmonauts too have made the Omega Speedmaster their official chronograph.

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Salary hikes in 1995 if budget estimates met — Sharif Zeid

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The government Wednesday announced that it would raise the salaries of the civil servants as of the beginning of next year if a projected increase in revenues was achieved.

The prime minister, Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, commenting during a Lower House of Parliament session on a report by House's Supply Committee on standards of living in the Kingdom, said that the government was studying ways to improve living standards.

"The government is working on providing a dignified life for its employees in terms of salaries, incentives, retirement and social security and will reconsider (its policies) in this domain in light of cost of living and the availability of funds," he said.

"The government is studying the increase in the cost of living since the last raise in salaries and will work on improving their salaries in light of this study and the expected increase in the budget," the prime minister added.

In reply to questions and comments raised by parliamentarians during Wednesday's and last Sunday's sessions on what deputies described as the high cost of living and as low civil servants' salaries, Sharif Zeid said that the government was keen on supplying all basic food commodities such as bread, rice, sugar and milk in sufficient quantities and at reasonable prices.

Measures will be taken by the government to support the agricultural sector primarily in the development of livestock sector and halting the imports of commodities that are available locally.

"The imports of frozen chicken and vegetable oil have stopped," he said.

The government will continue to purchase locally-produced grains at good prices to encourage local production and will maintain supervision of prices and quality of food.

The prime minister also announced that the government would expand the consumers corporations' services all over the country and would encourage the establishment of traditional markets (souqs) to "alleviate the burden on the citizen and cut the length of the chain between the consumer and the producer."

"The government pays special attention to the supply situation and the committee's report, together with the parliamentarians' comments, will help improve the supply policy," the prime minister said in the five-hour session.

On the floor on Wednesday, centrist, leftist and Islamist deputies voiced dissatisfaction of the supply situation in the Kingdom and

called on the government to increase the salaries of employees to go hand in hand with the increase in the cost of living.

Islamic Action Front (IAF) Deputy Hamzeh Mansour warned of serious consequences if there was an increase in the price of bread.

"Tackling extensively the issue of commodities, especially wheat is very worrying," Mr. Mansour said. "I warn against any manipulation of the price of bread. It is a red line that should not be trespassed."

Mr. Mansour said that there was a difference between the officially declared number of Jordanian families benefiting from food subsidies and the number of subsidy coupons that are distributed.

"If this difference indicates that those who are targeted are holders of temporary two-year passports (West Bank Palestinians) then I call on you to provide support for this layer in our society," he said.

Centrist Deputy Hammad Abu Jamous complained that the increase in prices since 1986 had reached 90 per cent while the average income of the individual has not risen by more than 20 per cent. He said that food subsidy coupons should be distributed only to poor people.

According to leftist Deputy Toujan Faisal, the price of basic commodities needed by an average family of six in Jordan would be less than JD 400.

"We need real information and real statistics," she said. "The minimum wage for an average Jordanian family should be at least equivalent to a deputy's salary."

In reply to the deputies' comments, Minister of Supply Adel Qudus said that the Department of Statistics did not intentionally hide any numbers in relation to the census conducted in December 1994 that showed Jordan had a population of 3,800,000.

He said that the statistics did not include at the time Jordanians who were out of the country when the census was carried out.

"The statistics include all those who were in the Kingdom at the time in addition to holders of temporary passports (17,000)," he said. "The ministry will take all the appropriate measures to ensure that food subsidy is provided for all those who deserve it."

The House finally endorsed the recommendations listed by the Supply Committee, which call for providing support for Jordanian families with an average income of less than JD 6,000, reconsidering market prices of sugar, rice and milk, and reviewing government measures to limit excessive profits of traders.



'ILLEGALS IN OWN LAND': Palestinian workers caught without Israeli-issued work permits sit on the pavement under the watchful eye of an Israeli soldier in East Jerusalem on Wednesday. Such 'illegal' workers are normally fined and sent back to the occupied West Bank (AFP photo)

Scholars say misguided concepts behind emphasis on 'Islamic fundamentalism'

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Revealing the two aspects of inter-faith relations throughout history, scholars and intellectuals attending a conference here on Wednesday drew up an in-depth analysis of belligerences and misguided concepts of religions and called for better understanding of the past leading to better relations in the future.

The discussions at the four-day conference, which focused mostly on Islam's image in the West and Muslim-Christian relations throughout history, were described by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who hosted the prominent scholars for dinner on Tuesday, as essential and indispensable prerequisites for the future happiness and good of the world.

"This is a pioneer meeting that grouped representatives of the three faiths jointly

looking forward to celebrating the millennium by attending a conference to discuss the issue of historical perceptions," said the Crown Prince.

"Understanding is the wealth of wealth," the Crown Prince added. "It is hoped that this wealth, the human resources of this country, is wealth effectively and comprehensively the understanding that we wish to promote."

Quoting cynic Bernard Shaw, Prince Hassan said: "The reasonable man adapts himself to the world. The unreasonable man insists on trying to adapt the world to himself and therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man."

John Esposito, renowned writer and professor of religion and international affairs at Georgetown University, pointed out in a working paper on contemporary images of Islam and the West that there were numerous misguided concepts about Islam.

He said that Islam's relationship with the West had been marked by mutual ignorance, stereotyping, contempt and conflict more than by understanding.

He said Muslim-Christian relations throughout history "have been overshadowed by conflict as the armies and missionaries of Islam and Christianity were locked in a struggle for power and for souls."

But Mr. Esposito, an author of several books on Islam, emphasised at the conference attended by Muslim, Christian and Jewish scholars from different parts of the world that positive interaction between the two religions took place in the past, with Christians influenced by the Islamic civilisation.

He said a similar interaction was taking place at present, pointing out that clashes and confrontation were normal. "While major historic clashes and violent confrontations have occurred,

they do not represent the total picture," he said. "In fact, positive interaction and influence have also taken place." "The Islamic civilisation was indebted to the West for many of the sources that enabled it to borrow and translate and then to develop a high civilisation that made its own remarkable contributions in philosophy, the sciences and technology while the West went into eclipse in the dark ages."

"Similarly, the West in turn reclaimed a renovated philosophical and scientific heritage from the Islamic civilisation, retranslating and reappropriating that knowledge which then became the foundation for its renaissance."

"In the modern period, Muslims have freely appropriated the accomplishments of modern science and technology. In many ways, they face a period of reex-

(Continued on page 7)

Shohal, Libai push to close Orient House

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Determined to counter Palestinian claims to Jerusalem, Israeli ministers said Wednesday they would investigate legal means of shutting down the Orient House, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) unofficial Jerusalem headquarters.

The justice and police ministers and Ehud Olmert, Jerusalem's right-wing mayor, reviewed the situation with attorney general Michael Ben-Yair.

Justice Minister David Libai called on the Orient House to stop all government activities — such as the reception of foreign dignitaries and heads of state — saying they are a violation of the interim Israel-PLO agree-

ment on September 1993 and Israeli law.

Faisal Hussein, a senior PLO official based in Jerusalem, criticised the Israeli moves.

"All these attempts will only lead to the destruction of the peace talks," he told the Associated Press.

The Orient House's quasi-governmental role has been a point of contention between Israel and the Palestinians. Israel considers it an attempt by the Palestinians to reinforce their claim to East Jerusalem as capital of a future Palestinian state.

Police Minister Moshe Shohal, who has led a "Jewish Jerusalem" crusade, was joined by Justice Minister David Libai in warning that

offices carrying out political activity for the PLO or the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) will be shut.

"(Palestinian) political activities are banned by Israeli law because they call into question Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem," said Mr. Shohal's spokesman Rafi Levy.

The two ministers issued the warning after meeting Mr. Olmert, Mr. Ben Yair and security service chiefs. They would meet again in a few days to draw up proposals to put to the government, Mr. Levy said.

However, Mr. Ben Yair was unsure if closure could be achieved legally, Israel radio reported. Mr. Shohal vowed Friday

to close down Palestinian organisations in East Jerusalem next week provided he can do it within the law.

On Wednesday and Thursday, Israeli police raided numerous Palestinian offices to check their links to the PNA and the financing of their activities.

Mr. Hussein affirmed the right of the PNA to fund the institutions in the eastern part of the city. In letters exchanged on Oct. 11, 1993, Israel committed itself to encourage rather than hinder the Palestinian institutions in the city.

In return the PLO promised that the PNA would operate from the self-rule areas of the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Stockholm clears suspect in blast, but holds him

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) — An Algerian held here for last month's Paris train bombing has been cleared of suspicion of murder by Sweden's chief prosecutor but will remain in custody for the time being, police said Wednesday.

Prosecutor Jan Danielsson concluded that the suspect, Abdul Karim Deneche, was in Sweden at the time of the Paris computer train blast on July 25, police said in a statement.

France meanwhile issued an international arrest warrant against Deneche.

Examining Magistrate Laurence le Vert issued the warrant.

A statement from the French state prosecutor's office said only that the warrant was being issued "in the framework of the judicial inquiry" into the bombing.

Deneche, 39, is suspected of being a European leader of the Armed Islamic Group, the most radical extremist group fighting Algeria's military-backed government. He was detained at his suburban Stockholm home after witnesses to the Paris bombing reportedly identified him at the scene.

The Armed Islamic Group has threatened France in the past for allegedly supporting the military-backed government in Algeria and claimed responsibility for the Dec. 24 hijacking of an Air France jetliner in which three passengers were killed.

Free anti-terrorist officials and Swedish security police involved in the interrogations collected evidence that still might be used against Deneche, prosecutor Danielsson said.

Since settling in Sweden in 1992, the man has raised money for Algeria's armed Muslim resistance. In an interview earlier this year with Swedish television, he praised the Armed Islamic Group — but said he was not a member.

Under Swedish law, police had until late Wednesday to arrest the man or release him for insufficient evidence.

The security police intend to ask Swedish government approval to expel the man, according to the national news agency TT. It was unclear where he would be sent.

The justice ministry will decide whether to expel him after secret police complete an investigation which should take three or four weeks, Police Commissioner Johan Grenfors said.

Until then, Deneche will remain in custody in Sweden. "We fear that he will disappear, or that he will turn to criminal or violent acts," the commissioner said, defending the decision to hold him in custody.

The prosecutor's conclusion apparently deals a blow to French investigators because news reports in France have placed Deneche on the train just prior to its being blown up.

COLUMN

Thousands pour into Seoul for mass wedding ceremony

SEOUL (AFP) — Thousands of men and women of all ages have started pouring into Seoul for a massive Unification Church ceremony that will wed 360,000 people worldwide in one day, 36,000 of them in an Olympic stadium here. Joining every international flight into the South Korean capital, the unification churches or "Moonies," as they are better known, have also taken every available hotel room in the city and spilled over into private homes. They are coming from Europe and the former Soviet Union, from Africa, Taiwan, Manila and the South Pacific for the ceremonies Thursday and Friday that will marry them — a wayward Typhoon Alice permitting. The ceremonies will be telecast live to 160 countries so that 327,000 other couples can be married at the same time with the same rituals, a drinking of holy nectar (wine or non-alcoholic), and a blessing (the first closed to the press, the second open to the press). A sample of the figures for the simultaneous worldwide ceremonies reads: 198,000 couples in Africa, 29,000 couples in Russia, 21,000 couples in Japan, 20,000 couples in the Middle East, 11,000 in Latin America, 10,000 in Taiwan, 9,000 in Europe, and 8,000 in North America.

Sex to improve in Hong Kong after 1997 — expert

HONG KONG (AFP) — Sex is going to get better in Hong Kong after 1997, when the British colony is returned to China, a local sexologist was quoted Wednesday as saying. "After 1997 there will be a big change in social attitudes. As far as sex is concerned, it will be for the better," Ng Man-Lum, known as the territory's "Dr. Sex," was quoted as saying in the South China Morning Post newspaper. Speaking about Hong Kong's hosting of a 1999 World Sexology Congress, Ng said China already has compulsory sex education in its schools and regards its sexologists with respect. Hong Kong, on the other hand, still has problems dealing seriously with the question of sex, he said, citing as one example the recent banning — later revoked by court order — of a bronze statue of a nude man. The most recent world congress, which took place in Japan, included a collection of sex relics from China.

'Ghost' phone number haunts Thai

BANGKOK (AFP) — Prasi Poruprommak was happy two years ago when the phone company gave him the unusual number 333-333, but he was not to know that the memorable digits would trouble him day and night. For superstitious Thais, 333-333 was a phone in a "ghost house," once the home of a family that was killed in a car crash, and which now was inhabited only by phantoms. No one knows how the rumour started, but much of Bangkok seems to have heard about — and tried — the phone number, hoping for spiritual help on numbers to play in the state lottery. To get a lottery tip, the rumour went, call the "ghost" number from a public phone after 2:00 a.m. If a man answers, hang up — otherwise your life will be cursed. But if a woman or a child picks up the phone, ask your question. Mr. Prasi, who runs a motorcycle repair shop in suburban Nakhon Patham, was bedeviled by the callers, the Nation daily said Wednesday. "Callers asked weird questions like, 'Are you alive?' or 'Whom am I talking to — a human or a ghost?'" Mr. Prasi told the paper.

Chirac vows firmness on nuclear wrangle

PARIS (R) — French President Jacques Chirac, returning from summer leave, said on Wednesday he was determined to go ahead with nuclear tests despite worldwide protests.

Mr. Chirac, his popularity slipping, chaired his first cabinet meeting after a two-week Riviera holiday marked by outcry over his plans to resume nuclear weapons tests in the South Pacific and Paris bomb attacks blamed on suspected Algerian extremists.

Government spokesman Francois Baroin told reporters Mr. Chirac was determined to go ahead with the tests in the South Pacific, scheduled from September to next May, and would fight any attempt to boycott French goods in protest.

"France's position is clear. It has not and will not change," he said.

"French authorities safeguard the nation's supreme interests and with this in mind consider that eight extra nuclear tests are needed to maintain our nuclear deterrent," he

said. Pacific countries are leading worldwide protests against Paris' decision to break a three-year embargo on nuclear tests. A plottia of protesters is on its way to the Mururoa test site.

Mr. Baron said France, which recalled its envoy to Canberra this month to protest against a decision to ban French defence firm Dassault aviation from bidding for to supply jets to the Australian air force, would firmly oppose any state boycott.

"There is international law, there is a World Trade Organisation and we'll speak there firmly and loudly to defend our interests, regarding defence or trade," he said.

Paris has cautioned Australia and New Zealand to keep their condemnation of French testing to the level of verbal criticism of China for its recent tests.

Mr. Baroin said Chirac told the cabinet of his appreciation for the work of rescue services and in-

vestigators after two bombs attacks in a month that killed seven people and wounded nearly 100.

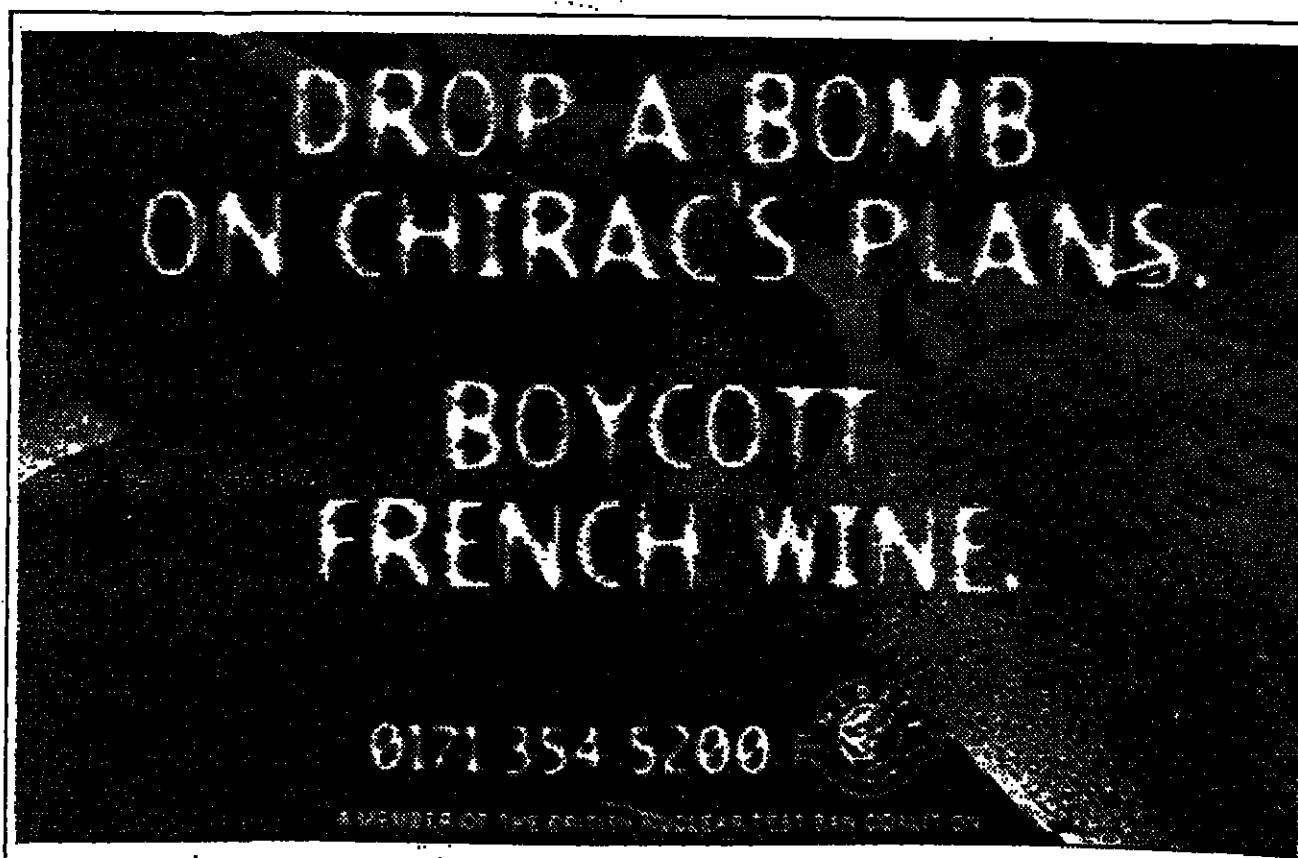
The attacks, and fears they were just a start, were a chilling reminder for Mr. Chirac of his 1980s stint as prime minister. The president, who completes 100 days in power on Thursday, had to deal with a wave of bloody bombings in 1986 just after he was appointed prime minister.

With the government's popularity declining over continuing acute unemployment, the cabinet meeting focused on the economy.

Prime Minister Alain Juppe, who is to present a draft budget next month to cut state deficit and unemployment, told reporters he had asked cabinet ministers to submit ambitious plans.

"The virtuous circle of deficit cuts and interest rates cuts has been set in motion," he said, adding employment would be his "only objective."

But an opinion poll published on Tuesday said vo-



A video image from an advertisement shown across Britain for the first time on Wednesday, urging consumers to boycott French wine and other goods to protest at France's decision to resume nuclear testing in the Pacific. The ad was

organised by the British Nuclear Test Ban Coalition. The ad shows "President Jacques Chirac" drinking a glass of wine, a sniper aiming at his head, heart and groin before shooting the bottle of wine (Reuters photo)

ters were increasingly wondering whether the government could carry out campaign pledges to create jobs.

The poll saw 55 per cent of voters were confident that Mr. Chirac could solve

the nation's problems, down from 56 per cent in June and 61 per cent in May. Mr. Juppe's confi-

dence rate slipped similarly to 54 per cent from 55 per cent in June and 59 per cent in May.